



Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP
Member for Inala



Minister for Transport
and Multicultural Affairs

Our ref: Petition 1565-10

Your ref: Petitions

18 MAR 2011

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of Parliament
Parliament House
Corner Alice and George Streets
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 1565-10 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Andrew Powell MP, Member for Glass House on 16 February 2011 in support of the need to 'fast track' the rail upgrade from Beerburrum to Nambour.

The *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2010-2031* outlines the government's program of infrastructure and major projects to support the draft *Connecting South East Queensland 2031: An Integrated Regional Transport Plan for South East Queensland* and represents a long term commitment to capital infrastructure works in south east Queensland. The *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2010-2031* identifies a range of upgrades to the North Coast rail line over the next 20 years.

The first of these upgrades was completed in April 2009 and involved duplicating the rail line between Caboolture and Beerburrum. Previously a winding, single track, the Queensland Government invested almost \$300 million to straighten and duplicate the line. The project involved building two new electrified tracks, four new rail bridges, a new road-over-rail bridge, 5.3 kilometres of road realignments and two new stations at Elimbah and Beerburrum. The project delivered additional rail capacity along the North Coast line and will cater for future growth in the Sunshine Coast region.

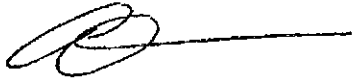
The rail upgrade from Beerburrum to Landsborough is currently programmed to commence in the delivery time period 2014-15 to 2019-20. The section from Landsborough to Nambour is on the government's longer-term planning horizon and is programmed for delivery between 2026-27 to 2030-31.

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The Queensland Government has however been proactively planning the Landsborough to Nambour rail upgrade, including the identification of a preferred route, new station locations, comprehensive community consultation and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, which was released for public consultation in 2009. The corridor is now being protected for future development and has provision for extra tracks if required in the future.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'A' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Anastacia Palaszczuk MP
Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs