



**Hon Craig Wallace MP**  
Member for Thuringowa



**Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries  
and Marine Infrastructure**

Our ref: PP1833-11

Your ref: Petitions

**19 DEC 2011**

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 1833-11 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, Member for Surfers Paradise on 1 December 2011 requesting that a speed limit of 6 knots be introduced for all vessels on the Nerang River between the Roma and Bermuda Street bridges.

A review of the speed limits on Gold Coast waterways was conducted in 2010 with public consultation being sought. No comments were received from residents or operators of vessels in and along the reach of the Nerang River identified in the petition.

The speed limit review considered the water sports activities taking place on the river and their impact on marine safety. Marine incident data was used to ascertain the level of safety currently being achieved by vessel operators and, as reported incidents were low in numbers, a reduction or prohibition of activities was not considered. It was also considered that reducing the amount of locations on the Nerang River where the public could participate in water sports activities would see additional pressures on the remaining locations, thus creating safety concerns in those locations due to overcrowding.

I am advised that officers from MSQ have been conducting specific enforcement operations targeting speeding vessels, and those in particular that operate at speeds above 6 knots within 30 metres of marine infrastructure such as pontoon and boat ramps while towing skiers. Similar enforcement and additional education campaigns will continue in the Nerang River throughout the year including the busy summer season.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Craig Wallace MP**  
**Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries  
and Marine Infrastructure**

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