



The Honourable Scott Emerson MP  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 10959 / MEX-13-366

Your ref: Petitions

**22 MAY 2013**

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 2039-12 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Stephen Bennett MP, Member for Burnett on 1 May 2013 about potentially reopening the Isis Junction railway station.

Queensland Rail has advised that Isis Junction station was closed in 1988.

The former station mainly serviced a branch line which transported sugar cane from farms to the Isis mill as well as a small number of customers boarding long distance services. Over time, sugar cane transport significantly shifted to road and demand for passenger services decreased.

In response to these changes in demand, the branch line was closed and the station building was demolished. The station platform remained in place to allow for train crew changes which were scheduled at the station until a few years ago.

Customers continue to access long distance passenger services from nearby stations at Howard, approximately 25 minutes from Isis, and Bundaberg. Bundaberg station is a fully serviced station located approximately 45 minutes from Isis.

Reopening the station would require extensive works, costing approximately \$350 000. These works would include the replacement of the existing deteriorated platform as well as provision of appropriate access points and parking.

I am committed to ensuring Queensland Rail provides an affordable and reliable rail transport option to all Queenslanders. Operating efficiently and ensuring value for money is achieved, which is essential in enabling my department to deliver on that commitment.

Currently, there are no plans to reopen Isis Station given the historically low patronage and the unjustifiable and high costs associated with re-establishing a passenger service at this location.

Yours sincerely

  
Scott Emerson MP  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads