



The Honourable Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 10958

Your ref: Petitions

14 MAY 2013

Level 15 Capital Hill Building
85 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1111
Facsimile +61 7 3224 2493
Email tmr@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 2099-13 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP, Member for Burdekin on 30 April 2013 about the proposed Townsville Port Rail Corridor.

The petition draws the attention of government to the objection by the undersigned residents to the construction of the proposed Townsville Port Rail corridor via the suburbs of Cluden and Oonoonba. The petition also indicates that the rail link will impact on the suburbs of Oonoonba, Cluden, Idalia, Wulguru and Stuart due to the size of the trains, hours of operation and the proposed freight such as coal and uranium. Furthermore, it indicates that this route will impact on the quality of life and the values of surrounding properties.

The evaluation of the potential to proceed with the construction of the Rail Corridor remains at a very preliminary stage, and the current corridor alignment, as illustrated in the Townsville State Development Area (TSDA) Scheme, has been cited for the efficiency it offers to rail operations as well as its construction costs which have the potential to hinder its economic viability.

The rail corridor has the potential to facilitate significant economic growth in North and North West Queensland.

The final alignment of the corridor through the TSDA falls under the jurisdiction of the Honourable Jeff Seeney MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning. It will be rigorously subjected to the broadest range of social and other considerations by the Department of State Development and Infrastructure Planning, should the proponents for its development identify the merits of progressing to the next stages.

Yours sincerely

Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads