



Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Member for Stretton



Queensland
Government

Minister for Natural Resources and
Minister for Mines

25 SEP 2003

Mr N J Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Alice and George Streets
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 25 August 2003 forwarding a copy of a Petition lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly, requesting the House to ensure the "most appropriate" use of an area of leasehold land, as open space, is obtained and that East Point be set aside as a public recreation reserve for the benefit of all residents of Mackay.

My Department of Natural Resources and Mines (NR&M) has granted the developer Eastpoint Mackay Pty Ltd a Permit to Occupy for investigation purposes over State land, which is the subject of this Petition. The developer has lodged an application under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* with the Mackay City Council for a "Material change of Use (preliminary approval) for an Integrated Tourist/Residential Development and associated uses".

The Mackay City Council, as assessment manager, is currently considering the application. The Council is required to consider all matters, including those raised in the petition, before reaching a decision to approve, approve with conditions or refuse the application.

NR&M's vegetation management interests are protected through current legislation and the developer has been advised of the departments' requirements and conditions that would be expected prior to the consideration of any tree clearing application from the developer. It is also envisaged that these interests will be further protected via conditions included in any proposed term lease.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

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