



Hon Leanne Donaldson MP
Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

Reference: CTS 05555/16

Level 8
80 Ann Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 46 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7560
Email agriculture@ministerial.qld.gov.au

18 MAR 2016

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Services
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil".

Thank you for your letter of 23 February 2016 about the Petition received by the Legislative Assembly No 2546-15.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has undertaken consultation to determine the views of stakeholders on the preferred location of the boundary between the two cattle tick zones, commonly referred to as the tick line. This consultation is to support the development of the new framework for management of cattle tick under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, due for commencement on 1 July 2016.

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* and Biosecurity Regulations will provide a regulatory framework for the management of cattle ticks in Queensland that will enable property or stock owners to meet their obligations through a range of options in flexible and responsive ways. Stock owners will have the flexibility to determine the best biosecurity option for effective cattle tick control for their business to meet their obligations. The framework is about allowing industry and producers to get on with business in less prescriptive and more flexible ways and ensuring that there is an equitable sharing of responsibility between all parties including Government, industry, producers and landholders.

The online survey on the location of the tick line closed on 29 February 2016. In total there have been over 979 submissions of the survey received or lodged. The Department has received many written submissions and petitions from a number of industry groups and individual stakeholders throughout the consultation period.

All submissions gathered or submitted and any other relevant information will be considered as the Queensland Government formalises a position on the location of the tick line under the new cattle tick management framework.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Ms Alana Tibbitts, Chief of Staff, in my office on telephone 07 3719 7560.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leanne Donaldson', with a large loop at the end.

**The Honourable Leanne Donaldson MP
Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries
Member for Bundaberg**