



Hon Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

Our Ref: CTS 22283/16
Your Ref: 10.4 Petitions

4 OCT 2016

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 6 September 2016 concerning Petition No. 2596-16 tabled in the Queensland Legislative Assembly regarding a proposed shooting range complex in the Curra State Forest near Gympie.

In December 2015, I affirmed in-principle support if the Council, as the proponent, satisfies a number of necessary conditions and demonstrates that outstanding matters associated with the proposed facility have been addressed. This will enable the project to proceed to the next stage. These matters include the resolution of any Native Title requirements, timber harvesting and apiary sites as well as demonstrating that concerns of relevant stakeholders have been satisfactorily addressed.

On the matter of compensation from the proponent for the loss of land, and its inherent values, I am not aware of any documented correspondence committing to waiving revocation compensation for this proposal. The compensation ratio applied to revocation of State forest lands is set by the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing's operational policy, and reflects the inherent and special attributes of these areas and the investments the State has made over time.

QPWS officers are continuing to discuss the proposal with the Council and provide assistance.

I would be pleased if you would arrange for the tabling of this letter in response to the Petition in accordance with Standing Order 31 by 4 October 2016.

I hope this information has been of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

DR STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef