



Hon Stephen Robertson MP
Member for Stretton



**Minister for Natural Resources and
Minister for Mines**

11 DEC 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 27 November 2003 forwarding a copy of a petition lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly, requesting the House ensures that no road closures occur as part of the master plan in the redevelopment of Lake Eacham.

Currently no applications have been received by my Department of Natural Resources and Mines for permanent closure of any of the roads referred to in the petition lodged. Should an application for closure be received, I will ensure that every measure is taken to provide the general public with opportunity to comment.

Prior to permanently closing a gazetted road under the provisions of section 98 of the *Land Act 1994*, I must be satisfied that a road is no longer needed for its gazetted purpose. To ascertain whether a road should remain open, a primary requirement is to undertake public notice of an application. This notice includes advertising in the local newspaper, placing notices in conspicuous positions on the road and advising adjoining owners who may be affected by the closure.

This ensures that the general public is given ample opportunity to provide input. In addition, I consider the linkages a road may provide in a road network and how these may be affected by a permanent closure.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

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