



Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

Our Ref: CTS18011/20
Your Ref: A591303

1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 5078 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7140
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

9 September 2020

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 18 August 2020 regarding Parliamentary Petition No. 3352-20 concerning the City of Gold Coast's intention to install 6.2 metre light poles on the Oceanway adjacent to the beach between Tugun and Bilinga.

This matter is the responsibility of the City of Gold Coast Council (the Council). The Council, through its planning scheme, determines what land uses and development proposals need to obtain an approval from the local government (called assessable development) and the level of assessment that applies.

I understand that the Council has determined that an upgrade to the lighting is required to ensure compliance with the relevant Australian Standard.

The Department of Environment and Science (the department) does not regulate the installation or operation of light poles on council controlled roads. The *National Light Pollution Guidelines* (the guideline) referenced in the petition is an Australian Government document.

The decision to use the guideline to determine the impacts of the proposed installation on turtles rests with the Council, in consultation with the relevant Australian Government department.

The Queensland Government provides a *Sea Turtle Sensitive Area Code* to support development assessments by councils. A copy is available online at:
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/sea-turtle-sensitive-area-code.pdf>.

I trust that this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

Leeanne Enoch MP
**Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts**