



Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Youth Affairs

Our Ref: CTS 17674/22
Your Ref: A960684

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11 November 2022

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 13 October 2022 enclosing a copy of Parliamentary Petition No. 3788-22 requesting the protection of land owned by the Gladstone Ports Corporation at the Port of Bundaberg (Lot 5 on SP274161).

It is noted that much of the remnant vegetation present on the above property is already provided protection under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* and the Port of Bundaberg Land Use Plan 2020, which has zoned part of this property in the "Buffer and Conservation Precinct". The "Buffer and Conservation Precinct" designates areas of strategic port land identified as having ecological significance, as well as areas that separate port operations from surrounding sensitive land uses.

I am also aware that Energy Queensland conducted a Flora Survey on this site and did not record any threatened species, and the Department of Environment and Science's internal searches did not show any conservation significant fauna recorded within the area or a one-kilometre buffer around it.

The Palaszczuk Government has dedicated \$262.5 million towards expanding our protected area estate. This property is classified as strategic port land located within the Bundaberg State Development Area, which is a designation that restricts opportunities for acquisition for protected area purposes.

I trust that this information has been of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

Meaghan Scanlon MP
Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Youth Affairs