



Hon Steven Miles MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,

Local Government and Planning

Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure

Our ref: WR23/11208

Your ref: A1094345

17 MAY 2023

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Mr Neil Laurie  
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Parliament House  
Corner of Alice and George Streets  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

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Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 21 April 2023 regarding petition 3851-23, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 18 April 2023 about Lake Hugh Muntz, Mermaid Waters.

The petitioners seek assistance in preventing the Gold Coast City Council (the council) from removing, "the last remaining island" in the Lake which is home to native birds and aquatic life.

The council is responsible for the management of the Lake. Lake Hugh Muntz was constructed in the early 1980s as part of the Robina Masterplan and material extracted from the site was used to build up the surrounding area, providing flood protection. The lake was designed to hold stormwater generated from the surrounding catchment.

The Lake has experienced ongoing algal blooms due to the nature of the lake's unique environment and the council has an ongoing management plan to ensure a healthy ecosystem for everyone to enjoy.

The island referred to by the petitioners is a floating reed bed. Three floating reed beds were installed in Lake Hugh Muntz in 2012 as part of a trial to help reduce nutrients in the lake and improve water quality. The council advises the floating reed beds did not assist with this process. There is now just one floating reed bed and the council has advised that at this time it does not intend to remove the last remaining floating reed bed. The council is currently continuing to maintain the floating reed bed and is increasing the aquatic vegetation around the lakes edge providing further habitat for birds and other wildlife.

The petitioners are encouraged to contact the council directly about their concerns. They can do this by writing to the council's chief executive officer, Mr Tim Baker, at PO Box 5042, GOLD COAST MC 9726 or via email at [mail@goldcoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@goldcoast.qld.gov.au).

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this matter with me and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



**STEVEN MILES MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER**  
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