

Our Ref: BNE1423-1
BNE2005/3876
E/0501066
Your Ref: 432-05

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 24 February 2005 providing a copy of a petition received by the House on 23 February 2005 concerning the proposed development of Taylor Point at Trinity Beach, north of Cairns.

The petition requests the House to ensure the right of safe, legal and permanent access at all times, regardless of tides, is provided from the northern end of Moore Street or the park on Connemara Close, Trinity Beach, directly to the foreshore at Taylor Point beach. The request is in keeping with the *State Coastal Management Plan – Queensland's Coastal Policy (2001)*, which seeks to ensure that opportunities for public access to the coast are maintained and enhanced, consistent with the conservation of coastal resources and the provision of public safety.

One of the challenges with this site is that the traditional public access from the northern end of Moore Street to Taylor Point beach has never been a public right. Rather, access has been at the discretion of the landowners through their private freehold land. Provision of a new public access route from the park on Connemara Close along the undeveloped "Marama Street" to the foreshore at Taylor Point beach would require two crossings of a tidal creek and is not considered feasible.

Accordingly, the Environmental Protection Agency is currently working with the developer and the Cairns City Council to resolve a means by which dedicated public access can be assured from the northern end of Moore Street to Taylor Point beach along a similar alignment to the current route.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Desley Boyle MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Local Government and Planning
Minister for Women