



Hon Henry Palaszczuk MP
Member for Inala



**Minister for Natural Resources
and Mines**

CTS 04858/05

3 1 AUG 2005

Mr N J Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Alice and George Streets
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr ^{Neil}Laurie

I refer to your letter of 10 August 2005 enclosing a copy of Petition No. 482-05 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 9 August 2005.

The petition requests "the House to not approve the inclusion of the drafted new quarry operation known as Key Resource Area 71 for Mt Cotton and does not approve any expansion of the existing Mt Cotton Quarry operation in State Development Plan and consider permanently preserving for the heritage of Queensland the 200 hectare property 195-203 Gramzow Road (Mt Cotton).

The petitioners also brought to the attention of the House that area known as Key Resource Area 71 (KRA 71) is 'unique' in that it is protected by ridge lines rising to nearly 200 metres on three sides and that the area is home to endangered rainforest habitat which is not found elsewhere in Brisbane and the existing koala habitat may be threatened if this area is not protected.

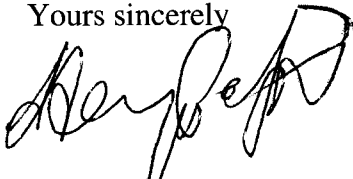
The draft State Planning Policy: Protection of Extractive Resources provides strategic planning protection for Key Resource Areas (KRAs) rather than development approval for extractive resources. Development approval for quarrying is managed by local governments through the Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS) under the *Integrated Planning Act, 1997* and not by the State Government or the Parliament.

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The Mount Cotton KRA (71) attached to the draft policy seeks only to ensure that incompatible development does not occur in the vicinity of the existing quarry and newly identified resources prior to assessment by local government of any quarry extension application under IDAS. If an application is made to extend the quarry, the environmental attributes of the land referred to in the petition, along with a range of other values, will be considered by the Redland Shire Council when assessing the application. The Council will then seek advice from State Government agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency regarding these issues.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Henry Palszczuk', written in a cursive style.

HENRY PALSZCZUK MP