

Our Ref: 771056
BNE2006/2641
E/06/00484
Your Ref: 613-06

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 16 February 2006 concerning a petition received by the House on 15 February 2006 regarding erosion on the beach at Cardwell, north of Sheridan Street.

In situations such as these, the local government has the primary responsibility for managing shoreline erosion problems. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is able to provide a level of technical and management advice and, in this case, it has been liaising with the Cardwell Shire Council in relation to the erosion.

Coastal erosive processes are dynamic and there may be a variety of causes behind the erosion. It is critical when addressing this issue to gain an understanding of the underlying causes of erosion, to determine the appropriate mitigating measures that can be implemented within environmental, economic and social constraints. This is typically carried out through the development and implementation of shoreline erosion management plans (SEMPs). I am advised that the Council has budgeted for the development of a SEMP for the foreshore. The EPA will provide advice on the technical causes of the current erosion and advice as to appropriate management options for the coastal zone in this location.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Yours sincerely

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