

Our Ref: 202388 PT 5
BNE2006/6256
E/06/01549
Your Ref: 648-06

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 10 May 2006 concerning a petition received by the House on 9 May 2006 requesting the provision of swimming facilities at Yeppoon's Main Beach.

Yeppoon's Main Beach is a high use recreational area, which provides for a diverse range of activities, including surf lifesaving services, sailing, swimming and other passive uses. The southern end of Main Beach is located near the entrance to Ross Creek, which provides access for boat users to Keppel Bay.

The construction of a swimming enclosure at the southern end of Main Beach would require permits from the Environmental Protection Agency. The type of permits required would depend upon the location and design of the enclosure, and may also include a State marine park permit.

The development of any type of swimming enclosure in this area would need to carefully consider the impacts of the structure on the beach profile, natural coastal processes, existing beach uses and the public usability of the beach and coastal waters. Consideration would also need to be given to the large natural tidal range in this area and how a structure would impact on scenic coastal landscape values.

Should the petitioners wish to progress the feasibility of this proposal, I recommend that the principal petitioner engage with the Livingstone Shire Council and the community organisations that use this beach to determine whether there is firm community support to fund an investigation of options for such a facility.

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