



Hon Neil Roberts MP
Member for Nudgee



**Queensland
Government**

File No: (DES/02/0490/P1)
Ref No: (00750-2008)

Minister for Emergency Services

25 MAR 2008

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your correspondence received on 15 February 2008, regarding petition number 878-07, lodged by Mr Evan Moorhead MP, Member for Waterford, regarding emergency service access to Bethania residents when Bethania Railway crossing is blocked.

The Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) and Acting Commissioner, Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) advise that both services are committed to attending all emergency incidents within established timeframes. There are occasions when a response to an incident can be delayed by traffic congestion, road accidents and natural phenomena. In these situations, emergency response officers work together to establish alternate access options.

If the railway crossing in Bethania was blocked for any reason, the QFRS and QAS would follow direction from Queensland Police Service officers controlling the scene, which is standard protocol. The QFRS and QAS are not aware of any incidents whereby fire or ambulance vehicles have not been able to access residents in this area of Bethania.

Should you require any further information, please contact Ms Leanne Linard (Policy Advisor) of my office on telephone number (07) 3247 8015.

Yours sincerely

Neil Roberts MP
Minister for Emergency Services

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