



Hon Andrew McNamara MP
Member for Hervey Bay



**Queensland
Government**

**Minister for Sustainability,
Climate Change and Innovation**

12 MAR 2008

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 27 February 2008 concerning Petition No. 976-07 regarding the Japanese harvest of the whales and calling for action by the Queensland Parliament.

Queensland waters are graced every year by the migration of the humpback whales. The recovery of their numbers is the consequence of concerted efforts and reforms by the Queensland Government along with other State governments, the Commonwealth Government and non-government organisations. Though the other whales mentioned in the petition do not reside in or visit our waters, the Queensland Government nonetheless believes that their conservation is important.

The Commonwealth Government has Queensland's full support in the current round of dialogue and negotiation concerning the International Whaling Commission. It is the Queensland Government's view that research should be directed at conservation priorities.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention. If any further information is required, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Rebecca Williams of the Environmental Protection Agency on telephone 3225 1778.

Yours sincerely

Andrew McNamara MP
Minister for Sustainability,
Climate Change and Innovation

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