

Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games

Our Ref: CTS 13843/19 Your Ref: A445711

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17 JUN 2019

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition numbers 3048-18 and 3139-19 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 16 May 2019 which request the House to support eco-tourism development within the Hinchinbrook electorate, including sustainable development of national parks and acknowledge the benefits of such investment in bringing jobs to rural and regional Queensland.

The Queensland Ecotourism Trails program shows the Government's commitment to present Queensland as one of the world's leading ecotourism destinations. These trails will deliver world-class experiences that support and protect the conservation of special natural places and unique cultural heritage. Delivering sensitive and sustainable eco-accommodation in the State's national parks helps Queensland position itself as a world leader in managing natural assets. Support of Traditional Owners, community and tourism industry authorities is critical to the success of our program.

Delivering genuine adventure and nature-based tourism experiences can significantly enhance Queensland's regional economic profile by providing jobs, business opportunities, tourism revenue and above all, programs for Traditional Owners' to protect their country and gain sustainable business and employment opportunities.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

HON KATE JONES MP

Minister for Innovation and

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