



Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports
Minister for Energy and Water Supply

Our ref: PET 15691

Your ref: 2372-15 Petitions

16 NOV 2015

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 2372-15 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Don Brown MP, Member for Capalaba on 15 October 2015 about dumped or abandoned vessels in Tingalpa Creek.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), through Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ), is responsible for the management of derelict vessels throughout Queensland. Derelict vessels and those vessels that are identified as having the potential to become derelict are closely monitored by MSQ and its compliance partners, the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol and Queensland Water Police.

Derelict vessels are managed within a legislative and policy framework which seeks to achieve an appropriate balance between acceptable safety and environmental outcomes and value for Queensland taxpayers. Ultimately it is the owner of a derelict vessel who is held responsible for the condition and removal of the vessel. For those vessels that pose an unacceptable risk to navigation or the environment and where the owner fails to act, or the vessel becomes abandoned, then MSQ will make every effort to manage that vessel directly.

I am pleased to confirm that an audit of Tingalpa Creek conducted in early 2015 led to the removal of four abandoned or derelict vessels in June of this year. Also, while some of the vessels remaining in Tingalpa Creek can be described as 'untidy', I am advised that they have been categorised as not meeting the risk criteria for MSQ to act immediately. I am further advised that some of these 'untidy' vessels are the permanent residence of their owners and the vessels are moored on approved buoy moorings.

The Member should be assured that any vessels that are at risk of becoming derelict or abandoned are recorded on MSQ's derelict vessel register and their condition will continue to be monitored through further audits of the area.

The Member is a passionate and effective advocate for marine safety and amenity in his electorate of Capalaba, and I thank him and all petitioners for their commitment to these issues.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and
Minister for Energy and Water Supply