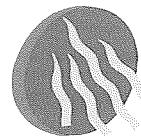




Hon Craig Wallace MP
Member for Thuringowa



**Queensland
Government**

Our ref: MC43714

Minister for Main Roads

Your ref: Petitions

25 SEP 2009

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 1273-09 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Shane Knuth MP, Member for Dalrymple, on 4 August 2009, about a request for a permanent B-double route in Ravenshoe.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges that safe and efficient freight transport operations are vital to support primary producers in the Ravenshoe area.

The current B-double route through Ravenshoe, where vehicles travel south along the Kennedy Highway onto the southern end of Tumoulin Road, is approved as the safest.

B-doubles wishing to travel on this section of highway must apply for a permit through the Department of Transport and Main Roads. The department in conjunction with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) investigate proposed turning paths, visibility and ability to safely access intersections when assessing applications for B-double routes, to determine the safety of the route and the potential impact on the road network.

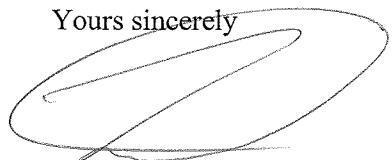
The Southern Tablelands Traffic Advisory Committee, made up of representatives from the department, QPS and Tablelands Regional Council, have met regularly in recent months to discuss the current B-double operations in the Ravenshoe area. Recent discussions include community support for a permanent route on Tumoulin Road. It was decided at the June meeting to continue operating under the current permit system. There are no current plans to make this a designated B-double route.

The department has carried out investigations to determine the cost and scope of works involved to upgrade the intersection on the Kennedy Highway and Tumoulin Road. There is no funding currently available for this project prioritised against safety improvement works.

Safety of all road users is the departments' number one priority. New warning signs, audible tactile linemarking and yellow raised pavement markers have recently been installed on roads in the Tablelands area, including the Kennedy Highway, to improve safety for motorists. The department will be replacing the current give way sign with a stop sign at the Kennedy Highway and Tumoulin Road intersection to further improve safety for motorists at this location.

If you require further information, please call Mr David Hamilton, Manager (Road Operations) in Cairns, on 4050 5406. Mr Hamilton will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CRAIG WALLACE".

Craig Wallace MP
Minister for Main Roads