

The Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

Your ref A481097 Our refs CTS 22090/19

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1 8 SEP 2019

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 22 August 2019, concerning e-petition No. 3162-19 received by the House on 20 August 2019, regarding the proposed expansion of the New Acland Coal Mine near Oakey.

I provide the following information in response to the petition.

The New Acland Stage 3 project has received significant community interest and has a protracted legal history.

With this in mind, the Palaszczuk Government went to the 2017 election with a commitment to accept the decision from the Land Court on the New Acland Coal Mine expansion. The Court of Appeal held the latest hearing in late February this year and last week handed down a set of draft orders. Parties have until 25 September 2019 to make submissions to the court regarding the draft orders, and we expect the court will finalise them shortly after.

As a government, we have considered this history and the commitment made at the last election to the people of Queensland. We believe it is right to await the Court of Appeal's final decision before making further decisions on the future of this project.

I provide you with this response for tabling pursuant to Standing Order 125(3). Any enquiries regarding this response can be referred to Mr Simon Zanatta, Chief of Staff, on telephone (07) 3719 7360.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Anthony Lynham MP** Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy