



Hon Steve Dickson MP  
Minister for National Parks, Recreation,  
Sport and Racing

Our Ref: CTS21231/14

**26 SEP 2014**

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
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Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 28 August 2014 enclosing a copy of Petition No. 2279-14 (the Petition) tabled in the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Petition requests that the House immediately excise Corella SF 700 from the Curra State Forest and issue a lease to the local council for the land to be used for a sporting shooters range complex. If the Gympie Regional Council (GRC) is not willing to expedite such a lease for these purposes, the petitioners request the House offer the lease to the Cooloola Range Complex Association (CRCA).

In a letter dated 12 February 2014 to the GRC, I provided approval-in-principle for the provision of land from Curra State Forest for the purpose of a shooting range complex.

This approval-in-principle was subject to the GRC meeting the necessary conditions associated with the final preferred authority or tenure, and also subject to the GRC satisfactorily resolving all issues associated with the provision of such a facility, including Native Title, existing use and forest production issues and development approvals. I understand that there are differing views within the broader community on where the proposed complex should be located.

The GRC is the proponent for this proposal and I understand they are conducting a feasibility study on the provision of a shooting complex.

Staff from the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing have met with GRC councillors and staff on a number of occasions. They have also inspected the potential sites with them and representatives from the CRCA.

Once I am satisfied that the necessary conditions of the approval-in-principle have been fulfilled, the department will work with the GRC and the community towards a suitable outcome.

I hope this information has been of assistance to you. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact Ms Johanna de Winter, Chief of Staff in my office, on telephone (07) 3719 7110.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Dickson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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**Minister for National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing**