



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 31669

Your ref: A431174

25 APR 2019

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3068-19 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar on 2 April 2019 regarding the proposed use of a Queensland Rail electrical multiple unit (EMU) train for an artificial reef.

Queensland Rail acknowledges that the EMU fleet has played a significant role in South East Queensland's recent history, being the first electric units to travel the network and having delivered customers safely to their destinations for more than 30 years. As the trains near the end of their serviceable life, the fleet is being progressively retired as the New Generation Rollingstock (NGR) fleet continues to roll out on the Citytrain network.

The Member can be assured that a special location will be found to commemorate EMU01, as Queensland Rail has done with other historically significant rollingstock, and Queensland Rail is continuing to finalise retirement plans for the remainder of the fleet.

The proposal to use an EMU unit or units to create an artificial reef has been discussed between the Department of Environment and Science (DES) and Queensland Rail. Initial discussions indicated that the suggested proposal would involve extensive work to ready the EMU for deployment in a marine environment. This process would include removing any risks of environmental contamination, engineering work to ensure stability, constraint mapping of suitable locations depending on the purpose of the reef, and working through plans for possible diver access and ongoing maintenance requirements. DES has also advised that purpose-built artificial reefs are preferred over scrap infrastructure. Accordingly, the Queensland Government is currently not progressing this proposal.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MARK BAILEY", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads