



Office of the Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP

Minister for State Development and  
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions  
Our refs: CLLO/15028 CTS 29032/15

Level 17 QMEC Building  
61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000  
PO Box 15216 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3199 8215  
Email sdnrm@ministerial.qld.gov.au

- 4 JAN 2016

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 2 December 2015, forwarding for response petition 2516-15 as tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 1 December 2015.

In response to the petition, you are advised that the Department of Natural Resources and Mines has, for many years, monitored both stream flows and groundwater levels throughout the Lockyer Valley. Streamflow data are available on the department's website and groundwater level data are available from the groundwater layers of the Coal Seam Gas Globe.

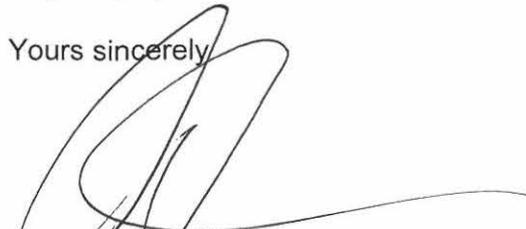
Concern about low groundwater levels within the alluvial aquifers led to the inclusion of the Lockyer Valley groundwater management area within the Water Resource (Moreton) Plan 2007. As a result, since that time, no additional bores have been permitted to be drilled in the alluvial system of the Lockyer Valley for purposes other than stock or domestic. Replacement bores have been allowed. The water resource plan also provides a framework which, in time, will allow the licensing and metering of groundwater use throughout the entire Lockyer Valley alluvial system.

In the last 15 years, the groundwater monitoring network in the upstream areas of the Lockyer Valley has been greatly enhanced to improve the understanding of the behaviour of the aquifer through dry and wet climatic conditions, and thus increase understanding of recharge processes. These improved understandings will be utilised as work is carried out in future years in various areas of the Lockyer Valley to enhance management strategies. As an example, the groundwater model developed for Central Lockyer to simulate alluvial groundwater conditions in that area will be utilised in the current management project to set volumetric entitlements in the Central Lockyer Valley Water Supply Scheme. Community representatives will be provided with an understanding of that model and be involved in the scenario testing process that will lead to the volumetric limits that are set.

Hence, it can be said that groundwater management decisions in the Lockyer Valley will be based on sound technical information and this information will be available to the community.

I would be pleased if you would arrange the tabling of this response under Standing Order 125(3). Any enquiries regarding this response can be referred to Paul Sanders, Regional Manager South Region, Department of Natural Resource and Mines, on telephone 3330 4465.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Lynham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Dr Anthony Lynham MP**  
Minister for State Development and  
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines