



The Honourable Scott Emerson MP  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 11386

Your ref: Petitions

04 SEP 2013

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition numbers 2124-13 and 2150-13 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr David Gibson MP, Member for Gympie on 6 August 2013 about Kin Kin Road.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has received numerous representations about the Kin Kin Quarry and Kin Kin Road.

TMR has advised that the existing quarry at Kin Kin is on private land and privately owned. TMR understands the Sunshine Coast Council recently approved an application to make Kin Kin Road the main haul route from the existing quarry. TMR acknowledges concerns about the impacts of increased heavy vehicle movements along Kin Kin Road, should the quarry begin commercial operations. Unfortunately TMR has no authority to retrospectively place conditions on an existing approved development application.

TMR considers heavy vehicle transport vital to the operation and success of local business and industry to provide the community with goods and services. TMR advises that while providing the road pavement and applicable structures can sustain the load limit, truck and trailer combinations not exceeding mass and dimension limits are allowed to use all Queensland roads, except those signed to restrict their operation. It should be noted that restrictions apply to vehicles, not loads.

In light of a potential increase in heavy vehicle movements, TMR has implemented several measures to improve the operation and performance of Kin Kin Road in recent years including widening the road along parts of the 1.5 kilometre section of range between Kin Kin and Pomona to give vehicles travelling in opposite directions more room to pass, reducing the speed limit on the range from 100km/h to 60km/h and linemarking the unmarked sections of road between Kin Kin and Pomona.

The severe weather events that occurred earlier this year caused damage to several hinterland roads in North Coast Region, including Kin Kin Road. While emergency repairs were undertaken immediately, further repair work to damaged sections will be undertaken next year, with geotechnical assessment and design underway.

TMR is undertaking pavement works on Kin Kin Road as part of its regular programmed maintenance schedule. This will include bitumen reseals on three sections between Bates Road and Paynes Bridge, scheduled to start in the coming months.

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TMR considers Kin Kin Road an important link for the Noosa Hinterland communities and will continue to regularly monitor the condition of Kin Kin Road and undertake repair and routine maintenance work as required. However, saddled with a significant debt from the previous government, there is no funding currently allocated to upgrade Kin Kin Road.

In regards to the request to commission an impact assessment, I am advised that TMR will undertake an assessment of Kin Kin Road that will consider existing and future transport demands for the road, including existing and potential heavy vehicle traffic. This will also identify future infrastructure priorities and longer term solutions for the road. It is anticipated this assessment will be completed by mid-2014.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Emerson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Emerson MP  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**