



Hon Andrew Powell MP
Member for Glass House

Ref CTS 06335/12

18 JUN 2012



Queensland
Government

Minister for Environment
and Heritage Protection

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 28 May 2012 enclosing a copy of Petition No. 1771-11 lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Petition draws to the attention of the House a proposal to further develop and continue to operate a Waste Transfer Station directly opposite major health facilities in Chermside. It also states that Waste Transfer Stations, milling, crushing and grinding concrete and building wastes should not operate near hospitals, businesses and residences as they pose health risks. The Petitioners request that the House introduce legislation that stops development applications for operating Waste Transfer Stations, within a safe distance from hospitals, businesses and residences and areas sensitive to the environment such as waterways.

Under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* (the Act), the relevant local government is responsible for preparing and coordinating the planning scheme for the future development of its local government area. Planning schemes are prepared by local governments to plan for the future orderly development of its local government area, provide for infrastructure such as roads and sewerage and to protect the natural environment and quality of life in that area. In the preparation of such planning schemes, the local government must ensure that the requirements of State Planning Policies, such as SPP 5/10 Air, Noise and Hazardous Materials, are incorporated.

In this matter, the Brisbane City Council is the assessment manager and has assessed the proposed development against the Brisbane City Plan 2000. The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, acting as a referral agency for environmentally relevant activities and other matters, provided a response to the council. The response included conditions to be imposed should the council approve the development.

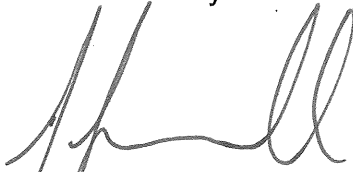
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Under the Act, submissions from interested parties regarding proposed development can be lodged with the assessment manager for consideration prior to a final decision. The council's decisions on development matters can be viewed on the council's website <<http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/>> or obtained by telephone on 3403 8888.

The Act stipulates that the coordination of local planning is devolved to local government as the body best placed to decide on development within the local government area. With regard to the current matter, the council is the designated decision-maker and determines the appropriateness of the development proposed for this area, by assessing it against the established planning scheme.

Should you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Paul Butcher, Acting Manager, Brisbane City North, Environmental Services of the department on telephone 3406 2283.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Powell', written in a cursive style.

ANDREW POWELL MP