



Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Hon Dr John McVeigh MP

Reference: CTS No. 20819/13

17 SEP 2013

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 2157-13 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 21 August 2013.

The training facility at Tinaroo Creek Road, Mareeba is owned by the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE), and was once part of the Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE. The petition calls on the State Government to halt any decision to sell the facility and instead reinvigorate it by establishing the Mareeba Training Hub.

The site covers 26 hectares and was leased from DETE by the Australian Agricultural College Corporation (AACC). Since AACC left, the facility has lain idle for more than a year. AACC's courses are now delivered from Walkamin, just outside Mareeba.

Based on careful investigation, the Queensland Government made a considered decision to sell the site. It is my understanding that the auction is unlikely to be halted.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McVeigh', written over a circular stamp or seal.

**DR JOHN McVEIGH, MP**  
**Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**  
**Member for Toowoomba South**