



Hon Peter Lawlor MP
Member for Southport



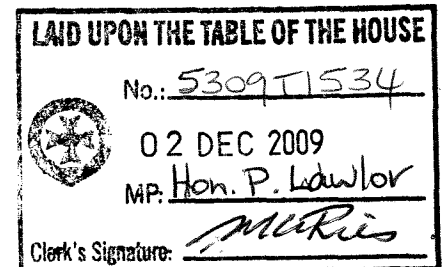
**Queensland
Government**

Ref: OGR-02362
MN=108253

Minister for Tourism and Fair Trading

30 NOV 2009

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



Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 11 November 2009 regarding petition number 1341-09 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 10 November 2009. The principal petitioner is Mr Gary Trevithick of 7 Masthead Quay, Noosaville who is seeking refusal of an application by MGW Hotels Pty Ltd for extended trading hours for the Villa Noosa Hotel-Motel, Noosaville.

It is noted Mr Trevithick is also the principal petitioner for petition number 1247-09, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 4 August 2009 which also relates to the extended trading hours application for the Villa Noosa Hotel-Motel and I refer to my response of 14 September 2009 which was forwarded to you for tabling.

On 16 September 2009, the Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Premier, announced a moratorium on applications for extended trading hours between 12 midnight and 5am, to take effect immediately. This means that current applications for extended trading hours, including the application for the Villa Noosa Hotel-Motel, are now on hold for 12 months pending the completion of a Parliamentary inquiry into alcohol-related violence in Queensland. The Law, Safety and Justice Committee's report on the outcome of this inquiry is expected to be handed down in March 2010.

The moratorium will not affect the existing extended trading hours of current licensees, nor will it apply to trading on New Year's Eve or one-off major or special events and these applications will continue to be considered on a case by case basis.

Level 26
111 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 1141 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3224 2004
Facsimile +61 7 3229 0434
Email tourism@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

It is also recognised there is a need for late night entertainment in appropriate environments and some allowance will be made for applications relating to a limited number of designated areas. While these areas are yet to be defined, it is likely they will include inner city areas with established entertainment precincts. All applications made within the designated areas will continue to be assessed in accordance with the criteria prescribed in the *Liquor Act 1992*.

The Bligh Government is committed to enhancing patron and community safety on and near licensed premises and to minimising harm from the misuse and abuse of alcohol, particularly where young people are concerned. This moratorium is another step in the Government's ongoing efforts to promote a safer and more responsible drinking culture in Queensland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Lawlor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Peter Lawlor MP
Minister for Tourism and Fair Trading

Encl.



Queensland
Government

Ref: LLD-00473
MN=105579

Department of
Employment, Economic
Development and Innovation

14 SEP 2009

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

COPY

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 5 August 2009 to the Honourable Andrew Fraser MP, Treasurer and Minister for Employment and Economic Development, regarding petition number 1247-09 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 4 August 2009. The principal petitioner is Mr Gary Trevithick of 7 Masthead Quay, Noosaville who is seeking refusal of an application by MGW Hotels Pty Ltd for extended trading hours for the Villa Noosa Hotel-Motel, Noosaville.

As liquor licensing matters fall within my portfolio responsibilities, a copy of your letter has been forwarded to me for my consideration.

I am advised by the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation that the application from MGW Hotels Pty Ltd is for an increase in the permitted hours for on premises consumption to 5am, Monday to Sunday. Currently trading on these days is permitted only to 3am.

Applications of this nature are subject to processes prescribed in the *Liquor Act 1992* with a decision made by the chief executive of liquor licensing following consultation with the community and regulatory agencies including the Queensland Police Service and the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

I am advised the closing date for lodging objections to this application was 12 August 2009 and that a substantial number of objections have been received. A conference will be convened shortly and all valid objectors will be invited to attend.

Once all information has been received, the application will be considered on its merits by the chief executive and a decision reached on a fair and impartial assessment of the evidence presented.

This consideration will include a thorough review of the concerns expressed by objectors, any potential local amenity issues and an assessment on the impact on the community if the application is granted.

As regulator of the liquor industry, the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation is obliged to carefully balance the commercial considerations of licensees with the welfare, needs and interests of the community. I am aware of community concern in relation to the availability of alcohol after 3am and I can assure the petitioners this application will be rigorously assessed, with the onus firmly on the licensee to demonstrate a genuine requirement for the proposed extended trading hours.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter Lawlor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping underline.

Peter Lawlor MP
Minister for Tourism and Fair Trading