



Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports
Minister for Energy and Water Supply

Our ref: PET 16111

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

30 DEC 2015

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 2484-15 and 2522-15 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 1 December 2015 about the Dohles Rocks Road/Bruce Highway on-ramp signalling.

As part of the joint Federal and State Governments' Bruce Highway Managed Motorways Project, ramp signalling commenced at five southbound on-ramps to the Bruce Highway between Caboolture and the Pine River (including the Dohles Rocks Road on-ramp) on 21 September 2015.

I am advised the ramp signal system has been observed to be effective in minimising the breakdown of traffic flow on the Bruce Highway, until such time that congestion from the Gateway Motorway and Gympie Arterial Road inhibits traffic flow on the highway. For example, a data sample shows a 10 per cent reduction in travel time along the Bruce Highway from Uhlmann Road to Dohles Rocks Road from October 2014 to October 2015.

Further, queues at the Anzac Avenue, Boundary Road, Deception Bay Road and Uhlmann Road on-ramps are generally being managed within the available ramp storage, with no impacts on intersecting arterial roads.

Following a series of initial adjustments, I understand that early delays experienced at Dohles Rocks Road have been reduced, and I am advised that the signalling system is now performing as it should be at this stage of the project.

These adjustments followed representations made by the Member for Kallangur, and involved the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) operating the signals at maximum capacity to push through as many vehicles as possible.

Following discussions with the community and the Member for Kallangur, who has been a strong advocate on this issue, the Palaszczuk Government has allocated \$415,000 for a project to increase the capacity of the Dohles Rocks Road on-ramp.

The project involved reconfiguring the ramp so that the far left storage lane extends back to the left-turn lane at Dohles Rocks Road. This improves vehicle access by providing a dedicated lane for left-turning vehicles all the way to the ramp signals, and two separate on-ramp lanes for right-turning vehicles from Dohles Rocks Road, with construction completed in December 2015.

I am advised that queuing along Dohles Rocks Road is caused by a number of factors including pre-existing capacity challenges along the local road network. TMR is therefore continuing to work with Moreton Bay Regional Council to investigate additional upgrades which may help alleviate the impacts of pre-existing congestion on the council-controlled network interacting with the introduction of ramp signals.

The Palaszczuk Government is dedicated to achieving the best network balance by improving traffic flow on the Bruce Highway, and reducing delays as much as possible at the on-ramps. I understand that it will take several months of fine-tuning the ramp signalling system, and for travel patterns to stabilise, before the full benefits of the system are realised. In the meantime, TMR is not proposing to remove the ramp signals.

I can assure the petitioners that I have asked TMR to continue to closely monitor conditions at the on-ramps and connecting arterial roads and make any necessary adjustments to the system.

I thank the petitioners and the Member for Kallangur for raising this matter with me, and trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', is written over a light blue circular watermark.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and
Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply