



1.10.05



Hon. Paul Lucas MP

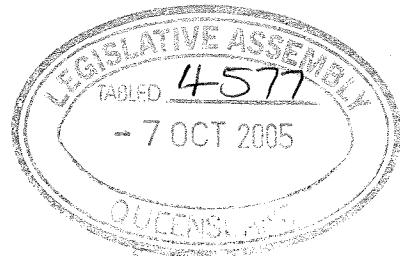
Our ref: MC15750

Your ref: 509-05

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

- 5 OCT 2005

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



Dear Mr Laurie

**Re: Petition No. 509-05
 All-tide access boat ramp facility at Kierle's Landing**

I refer to Petition No. 509-05 lodged by Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP, Member for Burdekin in Parliament on 11 August 2005 about a permanent all-tide access boat ramp facility at Kierle's Landing.

I am advised that there is an unofficial boat ramp at the Kierle's Landing site, which is exposed to wave action and cross currents, is in an erosion prone area and only allows part-tide navigational access to the sea.

I am also advised the mouth of the Burdekin River is highly mobile and the only practical way of ensuring all-tide access to the ramp at its present location and orientation would be to dredge a channel to the ramp and regularly maintain this channel at great expense. Funding for these works could not be justified given the low amount of use compared with other priorities in the State.

Studies have revealed that there are no sites in the area which are suitable for a sheltered all-tide access to the sea without extensive coastal engineering works such as dredged channels, breakwater and training walls.

Construction of recreational boating facilities is a joint undertaking between the Council and Queensland Transport (QT). Council provides for the land-based facilities while QT constructs the boat ramp. Priority must be given to proposals that are in sheltered sites, not exposed to wind and wave action and are all-tide accessible with appropriate land-based facilities.

Consequently, I have requested that officers from QT write to the Burdekin Shire Council (BSC) to investigate whether there is a more suitable site near Kierle's Landing which could improve boat launching.

Should BSC support improved boat launching facilities for this area and can provide the land-based infrastructure, they can submit a proposal for consideration on future Boating Infrastructure Capital and Maintenance Programs. The local Council would usually make this submission, as they must demonstrate the demand and provide the land based facilities to support the boat ramp.

QT is committed to the provision and maintenance of boating facilities across the State. In 2004-05, QT spent approximately \$26m on infrastructure and services for recreational boating across the State, whilst revenue from recreational boat registrations only amounted to \$11.6m.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lucas MP'.

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads