

Ref CTS 09661/07

Mr N J Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a letter from the Honourable Rod Welford MP, dated 12 September 2007, regarding Parliamentary Petition No. 870-07 lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Petition requests the House to direct that the old Atherton Primary School remain in the hands of the State Government and be fully maintained so it can continue to serve a very valuable community role.

My department has been particularly active in this matter and officers of my department have attended each public consultation that has been undertaken.

This matter is presently being considered by Government in order to determine the most appropriate use for the site and who the land should vest in. This process takes into account future accommodation arrangements for present tenants, ecological and socioeconomic values, and the needs of the council and general community.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

Craig Wallace MP
**Minister for Natural Resources and Water and
Minister Assisting the Premier in North Queensland**