



Hon David Crisafulli MP
Minister for Local Government,
Community Recovery and Resilience

Our ref: MC13/2884

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

- 6 NOV 2013

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of Parliament
Parliament House
Corner of Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Neil

Thank you for your letter of 8 August 2013 about Petition 2146-13 Safety Valve on the Cherwell River, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 6 August 2013.

The complex nature of the petition, namely removing soil from a narrow causeway on the last bend of the Cherwell River, required investigation and consultation with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM), the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority. The Member for Maryborough, Mrs Anne Maddern MP, who tabled the petition in Parliament on 6 August 2013, was also involved in the consultation process.

At the request of the Queensland Government, the Chief Executive Officer and a resource management technical expert contractor from the community-based Burnett Mary Regional Group for Natural Resource Management Ltd, inspected the site on 4 November 2013 with the Friends of Burrum River System Group.

It is anticipated that the findings of the site inspection, including practical options to manage siltation in the Cherwell River, will be made available to DNRM in approximately one week.

The report will then be provided to the Fraser Coast Regional Council to review and progress.

The Queensland Government recognises that local governments are the logical and most qualified body to address and administer local community issues. As always I am willing to support Council in progressing this matter.

I have been advised that costs relating to the clean-up, rehabilitation or restoration of rivers, waterways, streams and creeks are not eligible for restoration funding under the Commonwealth Government's Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

If you require further information, please contact Mr Richard Ferrett, Chief of Staff on (07) 3234 1870, who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Crisafulli', followed by a stylized flourish.

David Crisafulli MP
Minister for Local Government,
Community Recovery and Resilience