



The Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP  
Minister for State Development and  
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

Our Ref: WR16/49637  
MO/16/2398

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23 DEC 2016

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: [ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to the petition number 2673-16 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Rosemary Pratt on 30 November 2016 about the South Burnett Coal Project.

The independent Coordinator-General declared the South Burnett Coal Project a coordinated project on 18 August 2016 for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required, under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*. The declaration as a coordinated project does not imply government support for the project. It means that the project requires rigorous environmental assessment through an EIS.

The Coordinator-General released the draft terms of reference for the project's EIS for public comment from 17 October 2016 to 14 November 2016. The final terms of reference will consider public and agency comments received and will specify the issues that the proponent must address in the EIS. The petition identifies issues which will be incorporated in the final terms of reference, e.g. dust, noise and light.

The next step involves the proponent producing a draft EIS. Once the Coordinator-General is satisfied that the proponent's EIS comprehensively addresses the terms of reference, the EIS will be made available for public comment. There will be a number of opportunities for the community to have their say on the project at various points throughout the assessment process.

If you have any questions about my advice to you, Mr Paul Woodland, my Chief of Staff will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on telephone 3719 7360.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Anthony Lynham MP**  
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