



Minister for the Environment and Tourism
Minister for Science and Innovation

Our Ref: CTS 19870/24
Your Ref: A1345878

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11 December 2024

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Parliamentary Petition No. 4104-24 concerning making Rockhampton an Active Removal Zone for crocodiles, tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 12 September 2024, and the interim response tabled by the former Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation on 14 October 2024.

On 1 November 2024, I was appointed as the Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation. Under Standing Order 125(6)(b), I now provide this letter as the final response to the Petition.

I appreciate the concerns of petitioners in relation to the potential impacts crocodiles in the Fitzroy River may have on the confidence of the people of Rockhampton to engage in water-based recreation. The Queensland Government considers the management of estuarine crocodiles to protect public safety a priority and I can give an assurance these concerns will be carefully considered.

I understand there has previously been consultation with water-based recreational water users in Rockhampton under the previous government, to discuss zonings under the Queensland Crocodile Management Plan for a high recreation-use section of the river above the Barrage and for other waterways around Rockhampton.

While considering the Queensland Crocodile Management Plan zones for waterways in and around Rockhampton, I will seek to maximise protection of public safety by ensuring the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science, and Innovation targets any crocodile posing a risk to public safety for removal, and by delivering targeted community engagement to promote the adoption of 'Crocwise' safety behaviour by water users.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Powell MP
Minister for the Environment and Tourism and
Minister for Science and Innovation