THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT



Hon John Mickel MP Member for Logan

Our ref: MC33473 – TR/07/0921

Your ref: Petition No 942-07

1 4 JAN 2008

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



Minister for Transport, Trade, Employment and Industrial Relations



Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition no 942-07, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Evan Moorhead MP, Member for Waterford, on 13 November 2007 about alternative access across the rail line at Bethania Station, to ensure that emergency vehicles are provided a second line crossing, which could be a gated or locked crossing to be opened by Police, Queensland Rail Limited or emergency services, in the event of the closure of the existing crossing.

Queensland Rail Limited has reviewed the issue relating to the provision of an additional vehicular access across the Gold Coast rail line at Bethania. Currently a temporary level crossing at the Gold Coast end of the platform at Bethania station is required for construction plant and equipment access, as part of the station upgrade project.

On completion of the project, Queensland Rail Limited will consider leaving the crossing in place as an emergency crossing only. The terms and conditions of its use are still subject to Queensland Rail Limited's risk assessment process. The use of the crossing would be at the direction of the Queensland Police Service member onsite, in conjunction with Queensland Rail Limited. Queensland Rail Limited would also be able to utilise the crossing to move maintenance and construction vehicles across the rail corridor.

Queensland Rail Limited has advised it is aware of the increased residential development on the northern side of the rail corridor at Bethania and that the only crossing point is via the Station Road crossing. The provision of road services does not fall within Queensland Rail Limited's responsibility and any enquiry regarding road upgrades should be directed to the relevant road authority.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

WHN MICKEL MP Minister for Transport, Trade, Employment and Industrial Relations