



Queensland
Government

Hon Stephen Robertson MP

Member for Stretton

Your Ref:

Our Ref: ME/09/0431, MC3348

Minister for Natural Resources,
Mines and Energy and
Minister for Trade

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

14 APR 2009



Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly No.1074-08 by Ms Carolyn Male MP, Member for Glass House (now Member for Pine Rivers) on 11 February 2009, forwarded to the former Minister for Mines and Energy concerning mining on the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve.

Mining and exploration activities in Queensland are administered by Mines and Energy under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*.

In Queensland, any eligible person may make an application over available land for the grant of a Mining Lease. The process for obtaining the grant of a Mining Lease involves detailed assessment of the application, including public notification and an opportunity for persons affected by the application to object to the grant of the lease. Objections to the grant of a Mining Lease are referred to the Land Court for determination.

Also, a Mining Lease cannot be granted without a relevant Environmental Authority issued by the Department of Environment and Resource Management under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The process for the issue of an Environmental Authority also involves detailed assessment of the application, provides for public consultation and includes opportunity for objection to the issue of the authority. Objections to the issue of an Environmental Authority are also referred to the Land Court for determination.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I trust this information is of assistance. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact Mr Luke Croton, Executive Director, Statewide Services Division of Mines and Energy on telephone 4760 7434.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

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