

The Hon Mark Furner MP Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries

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1 3 JUN 2018

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

Dear Mr Laurie New,

Thank you for your letter of 16 May 2018 concerning petition number 2930-18 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly about the future of the heritage-listed Jimna fire tower.

I note that the petitioners have requested a review of the decision by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) to deconstruct the Jimna fire tower, and that an independent body be appointed to review all submissions provided during the Jimna fire tower public consultation process undertaken by the Department in late 2016.

I can confirm that DAF has not made a decision to deconstruct the Jimna fire tower. I also understand that the local Jimna community indicated overwhelming support to restore the Jimna fire tower due to its heritage values and cultural significance during the public consultation process referred to in the petition.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to preserving Queensland's rich environmental, cultural and built heritage for the enjoyment and betterment of current and future generations. As such, DAF as the agency responsible for the administration of the Jimna fire tower is working closely with the Department of Environment and Science, which has custodial responsibility for the State forest land on which the fire tower is situated, to determine the most appropriate strategy to manage the tower moving forward, including resourcing requirements. Following this, I expect that the Government will be in a position to advise the broader community of the proposed approach.

If you require further information, I encourage you to contact Mr Barry Underhill, Director Forestry, in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, on 07 3096 6556 or by email at barry.underhill@daf.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

MARK FURNER MP

Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries