



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

Our ref: CTS 08537/24
Your ref: A1276103

1 William Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 46 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7420
Email agriculture@ministerial.qld.gov.au

30 May 2024

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 3 May 2024, regarding a petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 30 April 2024 (No. 4064-24). The petition sought support from the House in relation to keeping the Mossman Sugar Mill (the mill) operational and / or to harvest the region's current sugarcane crop.

The Queensland Government recognises the significant impact the closure of the mill will have on growers, mill workers, local businesses and the broader community.

The mill and associated companies are currently in the hands of an appointed liquidator, who is obligated to obtain the best possible outcome for creditors. While the liquidator's current dealings are commercial-in-confidence, the Queensland Government is not aware of any proposals submitted to the liquidator where a potential operator of the mill is prepared to operate the mill to process the 2024 sugarcane crop, due to the significant operating and financial risks involved.

I have been advised that there are ongoing discussions. I encourage all parties to continue with these discussions in good faith.

If you require further information, please contact my office on 07 3719 7420.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Furner".

MARK FURNER MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and
Minister for Rural Communities