

Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef Minister for Science and Youth Affairs

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30 September 2021

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 2 September 2021 regarding Parliamentary Petition No. 3525-21 concerning prohibition and future development of petroleum/gas activities in flood plains of Lake Eyre.

The Queensland Government remains committed to working with stakeholders and communities to ensure the protection of the important environmental values of the Lake Eyre Basin streams and watercourses are balanced with economic development. To make sure the right balance is struck, the Government is committed to ensuring that all stakeholder voices are heard in this policy process.

In keeping with this commitment, a Lake Eyre Basin (Qld) Stakeholder Advisory Group will be established to inform the development of a consultation Regulatory Impact Statement. The Advisory Group will include Traditional Owners, industry bodies, environment groups, local government and scientific experts.

While this process is underway, applicants proposing new or expanded resource activities or regulated activities in the Lake Eyre Basin continue to be subject to requirements of the current planning and regulatory frameworks.

I trust that this information has been of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

Meaghan Scanlon MP Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef Minister for Science and Youth Affairs