

24 March 2016

The Hon Mark Bailey MP
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and
Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply
GPO Box 1412
Brisbane Qld 4001

cc Deputy Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for
Trade and Investment, the Hon Jackie Trad, MP
Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport,
the Hon Curtis Pitt, MP

Dear Minister

As you know, the Queensland Resources Council (QRC) is the peak representative organisation of the Queensland minerals and energy sector. QRC's membership encompasses minerals and energy exploration, production, and processing companies and associated service companies. QRC works on behalf of members to ensure Queensland's resources are developed profitably and competitively, in a socially and environmentally sustainable way.

I am writing to you to express QRC's support for the pre-budget submission made by the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP) working group. QRC is not a member of the working group, but regards the plan as an outstanding example of local Government leadership.

The IQ-RAP project is a regional economic development initiative to create jobs, drive productivity gains and attract investment. The IQ-RAP is based on data provided by Queensland's Department of Transport and Main Roads, which can be updated as required based on new demand coming online from new investments.

The IQ-RAP approach of seeking to capture value from infrastructure investment from a whole-of government perspective aligns with the State Infrastructure Plan which notes productivity as the greatest challenge with objectives to focus on infrastructure that "*leads and supports growth and productivity*" as well as to "*connect communities and markets*" and "*improve sustainability and resilience*". The State Infrastructure Plan states:

"the government will prioritise projects and initiatives that support connectedness and freight productivity in regional areas. The movement of freight is a critical activity driven by industry, population growth and consumer needs, and is fundamental in supporting economic growth".

The IQ-RAP plan recognises that Queensland enjoyed a decentralised regional economy where roads are often a critical part of the logistics chain for both key business inputs and for exporting products to market. QRC is fully supportive of IQ-RAP's bid for \$5 million in funding for the further refinement of the plan. The resource industry's view is that the further development of the plan offers the potential to maximise the economic prosperity of inland Queensland.

As such, the development and implementation of the IQ-RAP plan will contribute to Australia's productivity, quality of life, safety and equity outcomes. I should also note that QRC has also written to the Australian Government to express our support for the IQ-RAP plan

If you require any further information, QRC's contact is Andrew Barger who can be contacted on (07) 3316 2502 or alternatively via email at andrewb@grc.org.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Roche". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

Michael Roche
Chief Executive
Queensland Resources Council