



Lachlan MILLAR MP

Member for Gregory



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LETTER OF SUPPORT

Central Queensland is one of the “hero” districts of Queensland Agriculture. It enjoys unique advantages in terms of its natural endowment of water, topography and soils, as well as the advantages of established infrastructure – such as road and electrified rail networks - to get the agricultural product to market at a competitive price.

At a time when we have the opportunity of unprecedented access to markets to our near north hungry for our agricultural products, our challenge is to boost the productivity and competitiveness of this hero industry to meet that market demand. In doing so we will be developing that endowment in a way that will build prosperity across the entire region.

Developing our transport and logistics will be a key part of the challenge. I believe the CQ Inland Port proposal at Yamala near Emerald is an essential part of the solution. It will host secondary ancillary industry and services to maximise both road and rail freight and handling from a physically strategic location.

The success of the CQ Inland Port project represents a fundamental investment in agricultural logistics and value adding which will help take Central Queensland Agriculture to the next level. Furthermore, it will offer the Central Highlands the capacity to economically diversify through participation in value adding components of the agricultural product chain through projects such as oil-seed processing.

Emerald’s strategic location means it is eminently suited to serve as a major transport and freight hub whilst the experience of a similar project at Parkes in NSW illustrates how much employment and prosperity the CQ Inland Port has the potential to generate for the Central Highlands.

I have no hesitation in lending the project my warmest support and I offer the proponents my sincere wishes for their success in this vital endeavour.

Yours Sincerely,

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Member for Gregory

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