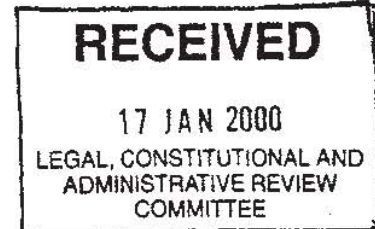




Deputy Premier
Minister for State Development and
Minister for Trade

HON. JIM ELDER MLA

13 JAN 2000



Submission No 20
Spec 23.1

Gary Fenlon MLA
Chairman:
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Legislative Assembly of Queensland
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000


Dear  Fenlon

I have pleasure in responding to the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's Position Paper (No 1) "The Role of the Queensland Parliament in Treaty Making".

The improved Treaty processes adopted in 1996 provide mechanisms that increase awareness of the Queensland Government of Treaties. Given that the new processes associated with these changes have taken some time to bed down, the resource implications associated with these changes are still being addressed by the Department of State Development.

In view of the recent public interest in multilateral issues, it is my view that the Queensland Government needs to be more informed of the Treaty process. However, I would be keen to ensure that any additional processes or mechanisms, should not impose an additional resource burden on the Department of State Development. In this respect, it may be more appropriate for the Department of the Premier and Cabinet to take the lead in any mechanisms.

Yours sincerely


JIM ELDER