G. Elmes,

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STATE DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

31st July, 2012.

The Research Director,
State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee,
Parliament House,
George Street,
BRISBANE, 4000

Dear Sir,

Re; Call for submissions on Government Land Tenure across Cape York Peninsula

A. Pastoral Holdings; Leasehold Land in Cape York Peninsula

Pastoral leases are operated as a rate and lease paying business. These businesses are severely impacted by road closers for three to four months of the year. This has a high impact on their bottom line.

B. The current Pastoral Leasehold tenure is very restrictive in business opportunities for lease holders to implement and diversify into other primary industry entities.

Required: A simple process to enable Pastoral Leases to be converted to improve tenure free holding and grazing homestead leases GHPL. This will give some certainty to our tenure in Cape York Peninsula which is supported by Local Government.

I feel a major constraint for some pastoral leases could be the value of the timber on the leases which could be more than what the pastoral leases is worth. An option would be similar to a rent which could be paid over a period of time which was the norm years ago.

The other option would be to leave the timber under the control of the Forestry Department.

Regards,

Graham Elmes