

Question on Notice

No. 462

Asked on 5 April 2011

MR JOHNSON asked the Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs (MS PALASZCZUK) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the deplorable state of the rail trucking facilities at Quilpie and the lack of cattle trains to this centre this year—

Will the Minister guarantee these cattle train services will commence in the near future taking heavy cattle transport off an already deteriorating road pavement from Quilpie to Ipswich and Beenleigh meat processing plants thus securing jobs at those plants and a cattle train service to cater for a record number of finished cattle that need to be transported

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Gregory for the question.

As a result of extensive flooding the south west line was closed in January 2011 and reopened on 28 March 2011.

The 2011 line closures did not affect scheduled cattle transport services from Quilpie.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has contracted with QR National to deliver cattle train services from Quilpie to Brisbane. The first service is to commence in May with one service per week scheduled thereafter until the end of November 2011.

These service levels have been agreed between QR National and its cattle transport customers.