

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 884**

**Asked on Thursday, 21 November 2013**

**MR KATTER** asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR EMERSON)—

### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the Lawn Hill National Park that was changed from a private rate payer to a national park, diminishing the Burke Shire's ability to cover the cost of maintaining the road while at the same time increasing traffic on it to around 25,000 vehicles per annum—

Will the Minister review the classification of the Lawn Hill-Gregory Road so that it is no longer a local government road or otherwise explain how the Burke Shire Council will be supported to adequately deal with this issue?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Mount Isa for the question.

As you would be aware, Lawn Hill National Park was first gazetted as a national park in 1984, with the Riversleigh World Heritage site being added in 1992.

At this time, the Gregory-Lawn Hill Road does not meet the criteria to be gazetted as a state-controlled road. However, as the Gregory-Lawn Hill Road is a Local Road of Regional Significance, Burke Shire Council can make a submission for funding under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS).

This scheme is a grant program to provide funding to local governments as members of a Regional Road and Transport Group for the development of transport related infrastructure. In 2012-13, \$500,000 was allocated to this road for TIDS funding.

Additionally, the council can make a submission for funding under the Roads to Regions program. This program is part of the Royalties for the Regions initiative to invest in regional community infrastructure projects. This initiative helps regions hosting major resource developments receive genuine long-term royalty benefits through planning and targeted infrastructure investment.

As required by legislation, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has developed road strategies that provide strategic long-term direction for the Queensland road system. The current *Roads Connecting Queenslanders* strategy, available on the TMR website at [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/About-us/Corporate-Information/Publications/Roads-Connecting-Queenslanders.aspx](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/About-us/Corporate-Information/Publications/Roads-Connecting-Queenslanders.aspx), outlines the criteria for considering if a road should be state-controlled.