



6 January 2019

Hon Mark Furner
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries
GPO Box 46
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

Re: Net Free Zones and Moreton Bay

On behalf of the Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA) I note that the Moreton Bay Working group has discussed the introduction of a net free zone (NFZ) in Moreton Bay. The impact of the NFZs in central and north Queensland are still being felt today, almost 3 years after their introduction.

I note that the communique from the recent Moreton Bay Working group meeting stated, 'A discussion on net free zones was requested by recreational members. Fisheries Queensland advised that a net free zone is a reallocation and the Reallocation of Fisheries Resources Policy applies. It requires any proponent proposing a reallocation to prepare a cost-benefits analysis and where commercial fishing access is affected outline a funding proposal for the payment of compensation. The working group was advised that there is currently no Government funding allocated for net free zones or licence buybacks'.

Can you confirm that the current Queensland government will not fund the introduction of a NFZ in Moreton Bay now or as policy position heading into the 2020 State election?

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence please contact Eric Perez, QSIA Chief Executive Officer on M: 0417 631 353 or E: eo@qsia.com.au

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Harris', is written over a large, faint, light blue watermark of the QSIA logo.

Keith Harris

President
Queensland Seafood Industry Association

1. Bernadette Ditchfield, Deputy Director General, Fisheries Queensland, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.