Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

1 April 2020

In response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, the Queensland Government recently announced the closure of all campgrounds in national parks, state forests and state-managed recreation and protected areas.

The department is now writing to you, as you are responsible for managing state-owned land either as a reserve, leasehold or freehold tenure that may allow camping to occur.

The Natural Resources, Mines and Energy Minister, Dr Anthony Lynham announced the restrictions on 30 March 2020, urging council and private camping ground operators to restrict recreational camping.

The expert medical advice received by government indicates that camping is a significant concern in the current environment and should not continue. Therefore, in the best interests of the community, the department requests that you please urgently restrict all recreational camping on state-owned land under your control.

It is critical that these activities cease to help slow the spread of coronavirus, particularly with the Easter school break approaching.

The restrictions will apply to short term recreational camping, including holiday makers, travellers and grey nomads. For the safety of the travelling public, overnight stays may be permitted. Long term and permanent tenants residing in caravan parks are not affected.

The department would like to thank you for assisting the Queensland Government in reducing the spread of the coronavirus. If you have any questions about these restrictions, please email the department at StateLand@dnrme.qld.gov.au

Yours faithfully

Graham Nicholas

Executive Director

Land and Native Title Services

Lands Division

