

29th May, 2008

The Hon. John Mickel, MP
Minister for Transport, Trade
Employment and Industrial Relations
GPO Box 2644
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Via Facsimile: 3224 4242

Dear Minister,

Re: Gold Coast Rapid Transit Project

Environmental Factors

We have previously written to you regarding our objections and comments to the proposed Gold Coast Rapid Transit Project.

Copy of the letter 2nd November 2007 is attached. We refer you to the page two (2) of the letter and the section regarding the environment and in particular the BEACH STONE-CURLEW. We reported that this is classified as an extremely rare and endangered and threatened species by Federal, State and Local Governments.

This was therefore brought to your attention, the Premier, TRANSLink RTS Project Managers and the Gold Coast City Council in several letters that confirmed where these birds are nesting on the western side of the Gold Coast Highway opposite Tedder Avenue, Main Beach.



The photographs incorporated in this letter were taken on Saturday 9th May, 2008 between 2.30-3.00pm.

The birds are nesting within meters of the planned Rapid Transport System.

Their removal and /or relocation and/or interference during the construction or operation of the RTS could seriously affect the possibility of this pair breeding.

It is extremely important to be fully informed that they are very rare birds and are an endangered and threatened species.

The RTS project team indicated that they had a survey carried by an environmental specialist which identified all the bird life in this particular area but were unable to find these birds. The RTS Project Team in a meeting on the 1st April, 2008 asked me to provide photos so that they could identify the birds and confirm their existence. The photographs herewith should do this conclusively.

This is yet another example of the devastation and environmental impact the RTS will have on our community and environment no doubt because it is proceeding without carrying out an independent Environmental Impact Study.

We would ask you to carefully review the route of the RTS and its effect on this endangered wildlife not to mention the +1,000 trees that will be lost.

If the route was located to the eastern side and especially if constructed underground by a simple cut and cover method so as not to inconvenience Indy or if buses were used in appropriate sections on the existing 6 lane Gold Coast Highway the environment would be free of impact from the RTS.

Yours Sincerely

Mario J. Fairlie

Rae B. Fairlie

c.c. **The Honorable Anna Bligh MP** Premier of Queensland

c.c. **The Hon Peter Garrett, AM, MP** Minister for the Environment,
Heritage and the Arts

c.c. **Mayor Councilors Ron Clarke MBE**

c.c. **GOLD COAST COUNCIL (all Councilors)**

Photographs of the Beach Stone-curlew taken on Saturday 9th May between 2.30-3.00pm.on the Western side of the Gold Coast Highway opposite

Tedder Ave.— nesting a few meters from the proposed Rapid Transport System.





