



# QUEENSLAND FARMERS' FEDERATION

Primary Producers House, Level 3, 183 North Quay, Brisbane QLD 4000  
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20 February 2018

Senator the Hon. Mathias Cormann  
Leader of the Government in the Senate  
Minister for Finance  
Special Minister of State  
PO Box 6100  
Senate, Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Via email: [Financeminister@finance.gov.au](mailto:Financeminister@finance.gov.au)

Dear Minister

## Re: Support for the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP) and pre-Budget Submission

I write to you to advise the Queensland Farmers' Federation's (QFF) support of the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP) and the proposed economic and social benefits analysis as put forward in a pre-Budget submission.

QFF is the united voice of intensive agriculture in Queensland. It is a federation that represents the interests of peak state and national agriculture industry organisations, which in turn collectively represent more than 13,000 primary producers across the state. QFF's mission is to secure a strong and sustainable future for Queensland farmers by representing the common interests of our member organisations:

- CANEGROWERS
- Cotton Australia
- Growcom
- Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland (NGIQ)
- Queensland Chicken Growers Association (QCGA)
- Queensland Dairyfarmers' Organisation (QDO)
- Burdekin River Irrigation Area Irrigators Ltd (BRIA)
- Central Downs Irrigators Ltd (CDIL)
- Bundaberg Regional Irrigators Group (BRIG)
- Flower Association
- Pioneer Valley Water Cooperative Ltd (PV Water)
- Pork Queensland Inc.
- Queensland Chicken Meat Council (QCMC)
- Queensland United Egg Producers (QUEP).

I understand the IQ-RAP Working Group, through RDA Townsville and North-West Queensland as the Secretariat, is seeking \$2 million to undertake nine research projects to build the economic and social benefits case for investment into strategic regional road networks.

*The united voice of intensive agriculture*



The road network is critical to our sector and industry members. A resilient, safe and fit-for-purpose road network is vital for agricultural operation and delivery of produce. Suitable and viable roads are a necessity for our workforce and critically important for the export and distribution of our products to markets.

Agriculture supply chains in Australia are often characterised by transport distances of over 1,000 km between production, processing and markets. Transport costs can account for up to 40 per cent of the price of agricultural products. Long-term planning, prioritisation and appropriate funding is therefore needed to ensure our sector remains globally competitive.

QFF supports the IQ-RAP project and considers the \$2 million in funding sought will better inform policies, programs and investment decision-making across all levels of government.

Please contact me on (07) 3837 4720 or email [travis@qff.org.au](mailto:travis@qff.org.au) if you would like to discuss further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Travis Tobin', is written in a cursive style.

Travis Tobin  
Chief Executive Officer

cc. The Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources.  
Ms Glenys Schuntner, Secretariat, IQ-RAP Working Group c/ RDA Townsville and North-West Queensland.