



Joy Burch MLA

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MINISTER FOR WOMEN
MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR GAMING AND RACING

MEMBER FOR BRINDABELLA

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk of the ACT Legislative Assembly
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter of 26 November 2013 to Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development regarding petition No. 4-13 received by the Assembly about the land use status of Block 1329 Canberra Central. As Minister Corbell is currently on leave, I will be responding on his behalf.

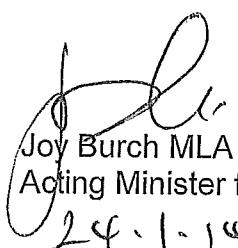
I can confirm that part Block 1329 Canberra Central (Paddock 5) is included in draft variation to the Territory Plan number 297 (DV297) following a request from the Conservator of Flora and Fauna in 2008. DV297 intends to vary Paddock 5 from special purpose reserve to nature reserve.

The ACT is not opposed to rezoning the block to nature reserve, but wishes to ensure that any potential offset capability is recognised for the purpose of the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environmental Offsets Policy.

The Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate anticipates commencing public consultation for DV297 in the second half of 2014 once assurance is received from the Commonwealth Department of the Environment that the site could be counted as an offset.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely


Joy Burch MLA
Acting Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development

24.1.14

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601 GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601



CANBERRA