

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Amendment to the Environmental Protection Act 1994 - submission
Date: Tuesday, 29 March 2016 5:22:51 PM

Dear Sir / Madam

As a Queensland citizen, I am writing to support the legislative amendments proposed in the *Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016*.

I object to taxpayers being left with the bill when mining companies destroy the environment in the course of extracting minerals or gas, then strip the company of assets and put it into administration. It is imperative that parent companies and/or company directors be held financially responsible for the environmental clean-up costs, which should be treated as part of the cost of mine operation.

Perhaps an even better model would be to require the company to put aside an additional per tonne levy, similar to royalties, but invested jointly by the company and the government, available only for the environmental rehabilitation of the site once mining is terminated. The amount in the fund should be reviewed from time to time to ensure it is adequate – if not, the per tonne levy should be increased.

The development of underground coal gasification and the roll out of unconventional gas (including Coal Seam Gas and Shale Gas) over thousands of square kilometres of Queensland has the potential for huge environmental damage and the destruction of the future income potential of arable land. Company directors may be less careless of this if they know they will be held financially responsible.

The legislation needs to mandate extending the responsibility to cleaning up environmental impacts to all mineral processing facilities in the State – for example, the Yabulu nickel facility was given away (sold for \$1) by BHP in order to avoid responsibility for the clean-up costs. After extracting what income he could from the facility, Clive Palmer now proposes to liquidate the operating company, leaving the Queensland taxpayer to clean up the tailings dam.

I appeal to you to protect our farm land and also to ensure that all mine costs including clean-up are paid for by those who profit from the sale of minerals or gas.

Yours faithfully

Jeanette Dall



Flying Fish Point Qld 4860