From:

To: Agriculture and Environment Committee

**Subject:** Submission about mining companies clearing up their own MESS!!

Date: Wednesday, 30 March 2016 7:52:33 PM

Dear Sir/Madam on the Agriculture and Environment Committee,

I like the new amendments to the so-called Clive Palmer Amendments - the Chain of Responsibilty Amendments. I am pretty fed-up with the costs incurred to even THINK about getting mine-sites back to how they were when companies got their hands on them! I believe the new legislation will help ensure mining and mineral processing industries prevent their operations from polluting the environment and will make it more likely that they will 'clean-up' after themselves.

I saw a documentary report showing how bad things are in the mine clean-ups needed in Qld and I think it is a disgrace.

Please keep those proposed amendments as you have them due to the following reasons:

- As a Queensland taxpayer I am concerned at the extent of abandoned mines and minerals processing facilities, numbering in excess of 15,000 sites across the states
- Early evidence shows that the development of underground coal gasification and the roll out of unconventional gas (including Coal Seam Gas and Shale Gas) over thousands of square kilometers of Queensland has the potential for huge environmental damage. Evidence is building up against this industry.
- Companies' financial assurance or environmental insurance is unlikely to cover the extent of the damage when things go wrong with mining and unconventional gas
- Right now many mining and unconventional gas companies are facing financial pressure and risk going into administration. These circumstances make the *Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016* necessary and urgent
- I KNOW there is a urgent need to hold companies to account in regards to cleaning up the environmental impacts given the industry's poor environmental record
- The legislation needs to mandate extending the responsibility to cleaning up environmental impacts to all mineral processing facilities in the State, and
- I totally support a "polluter pays" principle where those that profit from exploiting the mineral resources which are owned by the people of Queensland leave their sites in a condition without residual environmental impacts.

Thank you for taking my concerns into consideration in your deliberations. Regards

Jenny Fitzgibbon

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