Agriculture and Environment Committee
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Thursday, 31 March 2016 12:50:14 PM

To the Agriculture and Environment Committee

I am writing to say I support the legislative amendments proposed in the *Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016.* 

As a Queensland taxpayer I am extremely concerned at the extent of abandoned mines and minerals processing facilities that number in excess of 15,000 sites across the state.

I am vehemently opposed to 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 as early evidence shows they have the potential for huge environmental damage.

Companies financial assurance or environmental insurance is unlikely to cover the extent of the damage when things go wrong with mining and unconventional gas!

Already 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.

There is a urgent need to hold companies to account in regards to cleaning up the environmental impacts given the mining industry's poor environmental record.

Legislation needs to mandate extending the responsibility to cleaning up environmental impacts to all mineral processing facilities in the State.

I strongly support the "polluter pays" principle where all 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!

Please pass the amendments proposed in the *Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016.* 

Thank you

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