

A submission lodged this day, the 31st of March 2016, for the consideration of the Agriculture and Environment Committee in relation to:

The Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016

I, Elizabeth Anne Mahood, support the proposed legislative amendments proposed in the Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016.

Legislation encouraging mining companies and in particular unconventional gas companies to factor in more stringent requirements to exercise duty of care to the environment is a step towards a more responsible working relationship with the environment.

The lack of respect demonstrated by the many mines and mineral processing facilities abandoned and left in a less than satisfactory state is a clear indication of how ineffective the present requirements from government are for ensuring the prevention of residual ongoing environmental impacts.

In my opinion leaving the environment where mining operations have been carried out in a satisfactory state deserves the highest priority. I have little faith in the less than adequate benchmarks set describing "rehabilitation" or leaving a site "without residual environmental impacts" but am encouraged by the proposed legislative amendments to hope for further improvement in this area.

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