



YOUR REF Agriculture and Environment Committee – Current Inquiries  
OUR REF Strategic Planning – Coastal  
JA: RD

1 April 2016

Research Director  
**Agriculture and Environment Committee**  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: [aec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:aec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

**LETTER OF SUPPORT – PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2016**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Agriculture and Environment Committee on the *Environment Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Bill 2016* (herein referred to as 'the Bill').

Mackay Regional Council supports the intent of the Bill for increased transparency of responsibilities, ensuring relevant environment obligations are complied with and reducing financial burdens on the State and Local Governments.

In the Mackay Regional Council Local Government Area, and greater Mackay, Isaac & Whitsunday Region, large scale developments requiring an Environmental Authority (EA) from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) to minimise environmental harm are not uncommon.

Under the current regime, in the event where environmental protection and/or rehabilitation is not undertaken by an operator, Mackay Regional Council is conscious of the potential long term detrimental effects that may arise within a region while responsibilities and financial matters are resolved at a State level. For example, detrimental impacts may be on the immediate environment (i.e. local waterways health) and visual amenity (i.e. tourism and liveability).

We welcome further opportunity to discuss the Bill and the findings of the parliamentary committee's public consultation findings.

If you require any further information on the above, do not hesitate to contact Jaco Ackerman, Manager Strategic Planning, [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]  
**Gerard Carlyon**  
Director Development Services