

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: I support the Chain of Responsibility Bill 2016
Date: Wednesday, 30 March 2016 10:31:31 PM

- Dear Parliament,

The idea that our laws are designed to allow someone or a group of someone's, ie a company to damage our environment, profit off this damage, and then leave the unsightly, toxic and hazardous mess as an inheritance for taxpayers and their children is absurd, criminal, absolutely unethical, and even slightly unbelievable.

Please restore some modicum of sensible accountability by passing this Bill.

To this end:

- I fully support the proposed legislative amendments proposed in the *Environmental Protection (Chain of Responsibility) Amendment Bill 2016*
- As a Queensland taxpayer I am concerned at the extent of abandoned mines and minerals processing facilities that number in excess of 15,000 sites across the states
- Evidence from Australia and the USA 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
- That companies financial assurance or environmental insurance is unlikely to cover the extent of the damage when things go wrong with mining and unconventional gas
- That 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
- That there is a urgent need to hold companies to account in regards to cleaning up the environmental impacts
- That the legislation needs to mandate extending the responsibility to cleaning up environmental impacts to all mineral processing facilities in the State, and
- That I completely support the “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.

Yours Sincerely,

Alfred and Kate Wimblett

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