

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee; vminquiry](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Biloela Landholder Submission - Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Thursday, 31 March 2016 8:27:43 PM
Attachments: [report.pdf](#)

Hi AEC Members, I am writing to **strongly oppose** the reinstatement of the proposed Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 recently tabled to the Qld Parliament by Jackie Trad on the 17th March 2016

I am the owner of a freehold 42 Hectare parcel of land near Biloela, Qld, under the proposed bill, my property will have Cat C and Cat R vegetation. While I realise the intention of the bill is to protect the environment, I believe the laws are too restrictive and remove the right of the landholder to manage his/her own property as required for their purposes. My land has been cleared in the past and neighbours the Callide Dam which in itself has a major impact on the local environment, I have an area of Brigalow regrowth which is now badly overgrown and has thickened well past the natural level for this species, in fact once cleared these type of properties require constant management of the vegetation otherwise the rate of regrowth eventually renders the land useless to all but Itchy Grubs. The supporters of this bill obviously do not realise this fact and in my case are actually causing environmental issues.

I oppose the passing of the bill due to the below reasons.

- Brigalow, once cleared requires constant thinning to prevent the affected land becoming unusable after only a few years.
- The bill erodes my rights as a landholder to manage my property as I require.
- The restrictions surrounding water courses are substantial and should not apply to all water ways, only those deemed to have high importance.
- The effect of clearing on the environment differs wildly between locations and legislation should not be blanket applied across all areas simply because they are near a water course or have regrowth above a specified limit, this is far too simple a solution and is frankly poor Governance
- Property owners need to have confidence they can manage vegetation on their own properties without the threat of breaking the law while simply trying to earn a living.
- Property owners are by far the best people to judge how their properties are cleared/managed after all they have the most to lose/gain and have direct knowledge of the area and consequences of their actions.

Please do not allow the passing of this bill, I need my faith in Parliament restored, not shattered. I need to be able to manage my own property without the proposed overbearing legislation making simple land management excessively regulated and over complicated for very little benefit to the environment in my circumstance. If you could see the issue through my eyes, I am 100% sure you would make the same judgements of this issue.

I have attached a picture of my land as it would be classified if the bill is passed, it is obvious that this vegetation holds very little value but would still be deemed protected proving this bill is poorly conceived. To further prove my point I have attached the vegetation map showing my entire property listed as Cat X under the current laws.

Thanks for your time from a concerned Queenslander/Property owner/ Trade Union
Member/Grazier.

Eddie Burchill

Biloela, Qld

