

To the Research Director;  
Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Up to very recently, I have spent all of my adult life living and raising my family in Qld. My adult children and now grandchildren still reside in Qld as well as other family members, so my emotional attachment to what happens there is very high.

It causes me great concern to know that the QLD government is still maintaining a blind eye when it comes to the care of the state, its flora, fauna and in general, the overall care of the environment.

The governments view and lack of care for the fragile environment where such precious creatures live such as our struggling koala population is appalling, needless to say our other endangered and iconic critters that reside side by side in the QLD state. By approving of such acts as mass tree clearing and approval of the mega mine you are showing everyone how little your government really cares for our state, and how the motivation for \$ and blind supporting of big business regardless of the consequences is the only thing that's really on your agenda.

It has been well documented for many years now as to the real harm caused by mass land clearing. The loss of habitat for our wildlife, the loss of fragile top soil, the unbalancing of fragile eco systems as well as the release of millions of tonnes of CO2 should be of prime concern to not support such unsustainable practices, & motivation for our government to find other practices that can save and support a mutual cohabitation for our population, environment, wildlife and big business.

I believe passing of the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 is good because it:

1. Eliminates the ability for big businesses to get a permit clear for so-called High Value Agriculture, and thus stop large-scale clearing of remnant woodlands.
2. It protects ecologically important regrowing woodlands ('High Value Regrowth') on freehold and Aboriginal land.
3. It supports protection for trees next to riverbanks ('riparian areas') and extending provisions from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.
4. It eliminates the 'Forgiveness is easier to get than permission' defence of claimed mistaken clearing, and restores the *starting* presumption that a landholder is responsible for clearing that takes place on their property.
5. It makes much of the prospective legislation retrospective to 17 March, in an attempt to deter panic clearing and panic applications.

Please consider the real truth, and do what is right for all involved, not just taking the profit for the few as more important.

Regards

Perth Burrin

Kidman Park Adelaide SA