

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Submission to Inquiry on Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Sunday, 17 April 2016 5:16:16 PM

Dear Research Director, Agriculture and Environment Committee,

I am writing to the Inquiry into the Queensland land clearing reform Bill - the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

I understand this Bill will restrengthen Queensland's tree clearing laws, and I support this Bill and recommend its passing.

Over 20 years ago at university, I studied conservation in Australia, with textbook "The Vanishing Continent" which described land clearing and inappropriate land use as one of the key factors in vanishing top soil, and degradation of land for human and animal use. Since then I have seen governments increase and decrease protection of the land, and we're still witnessing land degradation Australia wide and in Queensland. More should be done to protect the Queensland environment, and this Bill is another step forward in that protection.

The protection of land from clearing has numerous benefits both to Queenslanders and to the environment. Where land is protected, erosion is usually lessened, top soil is retained, and the future livelihood of farmers is protected. The land is kept in a more protected state for indigenous Australians. There are important protections such as retention of habitat for wildlife, avoidance of topsoil/nutrients/pesticides being washed away into rivers and catchments and their flow on effects in protecting waterways and reefs. These days it is also vital to consider the effect on climate change on retaining carbon in trees.

I understand the Bill with retrosepctive start date lessens the risk of large scale woodland clearing, clarifies farmer responsibilities, protects riparian areas and reef catchments, and protects ecologically important woodland regrowth. I support these improvements.

I consider this Bill to be a step in the right direction in the protection of Queensland.

Yours sincerely,
Kylie Jones

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