

B.D Paulsen

Cedar Grove. 4285

18th April, 2016

The Research Director,
Agriculture & Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE 4000

Dear Sir,

Re: Vegetation Management (Reinstatement)

As a Past President of the Tropical Grasslands Society of Australia and primary producer (now retired) I strongly object to the proposed Vegetation Management Laws.


The grounds on which I object include the following:

1. Primary producers of the present era are in the main well educated and skilled in their chosen careers and sympathetic to the continued maintenance and improvement of their properties.
2. Management of their properties to maintain viable enterprises is essential and the producer at the "coal face" is best suited to provide this management.
3. The proposed laws will reduce the viability of properties with, inter alia, the following consequences
 - Unwanted regrowth
 - Reduced values of properties
 - Reduced income making many properties unviable
 - Reduced income to council and government from reduced land value and income from the primary producer
 - Flow on effect to rural communities and business (reduced income & eventually population)
 - Management costs to the producer will increase significantly e.g. mustering in regrowth, control of feral animals and noxious weeds, fire hazards etc.
 - Increased unemployment in rural industries
4. A flow on effect will be reduced production and consequently a decline in revenue for our export industries.

5. The proposed laws would also have a devastating effect on small rural residential lot owners who find themselves unwittingly in breach of the laws.
6. The proposed laws are against all legal principles of "onus of proof".
7. The proposed laws are a denial of natural justice and the producers' of civil liberties.
8. Retrospectively, as proposed, strikes at the heart of all things called Australian.

In conclusion, in my experience primary producers see themselves as custodians of the land so that future generations will benefit from their endeavours and therefore act in the best interests for this future.

Yours faithfully,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of B. D. Paulsen.

B. D. Paulsen

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