

**From:** [Potter, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [vminquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 -  
**Date:** Tuesday, 19 April 2016 10:25:01 AM

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Hello,

My name is Rachel Potter of [REDACTED], Kilsyth, VIC, 3137. My phone number is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and email address is [REDACTED]

Land clearing is one of the most important environmental issues to me. I feel that if we don't get this legislation right now, we will miss any opportunity in the future.

The loss of habitats and impacts on our already threatened iconic flora and fauna, such as the koala need to be addressed now. This includes the devastating impact that clearing can have on The Barrier Reef from clearing within Great Barrier Reef catchments and increasing the effects of climate change with the release of millions of tonnes CO2.

I support the Bill and recommend its passing as the Bill:

- Removes the ability to get a permit clear for so-called High Value Agriculture, and thus stop large-scale clearing of remnant woodlands.
- Restores protections for ecologically important regrowing woodlands ('High Value Regrowth') on freehold and Aboriginal land.
- Restores protections for trees next to riverbanks ('riparian areas') and extending provisions from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.
- Removes the 'oops' defence of claimed mistaken clearing, and restores the starting presumption that a landholder is responsible for clearing that takes place on their property.

Thank you  
Rachel Potter

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