

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Inquiry into the Queensland land clearing reform Bill
Date: Thursday, 14 April 2016 11:40:13 AM

To the Environment Parliamentary Committee inquiry into the Queensland Land clearing reform bill

Dear Committee

We don't live in Queensland, but have visited your beautiful state on numerous occasions. What attracts us back time and again, is the wealth of natural flora and fauna. Land clearing threatens the remaining habitat of so many iconic species such as the koala, platypus and cassowary.

Impacts from land clearing mean greater sediment runoff into waterways and eventually the sea, which means more impact on the Great Barrier Reef, a vitally important icon for Queensland.

Land clearing releases stored carbon contributing to increased green house gas emissions and therefore climate change.

Land clearing raises water tables, contributes to salinity and acidification of the soil reduces water holding capacity of the soil and contributes to desertification and erosion.

I support the vegetation management (reinstatement) and other legislation and amendment bill 2016 because it:

1. Removes the ability to obtain a permit for clearing for so called "high value agriculture", thereby stopping large scale clearing of remnant woodlands.
2. Restores protection for ecologically important re-growing woodlands (High Value Regrowth) on freehold and Aboriginal land.
3. Restores protection for riverside vegetation (Riparian areas) and extends provisions for protection, from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.
4. Removes the defence of claimed "mistaken clearing", restoring the starting premise that a land holder is responsible for land clearing that takes place on their property.
5. Makes most of the prospective legislation retrospective in order to deter panic applications and clearing.

Our world is in a perilous state and our environment is bearing the brunt of unsustainable use and development. We need to start to put "our money where our mouth is" and take practical steps to restore balance. There will be no economy if we have no environment. Please support these reforms

Sincerely

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