

From: [REDACTED]
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Cc: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Vegetation Management Inquiry Committee Members
Date: Wednesday, 27 April 2016 2:36:51 PM

Attention: Members of Queensland Parliament's – Agriculture and Environment Committee

I made a Submission to your current Inquiry into 'The Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016' last Thursday, believing the deadline for Submissions to be received was last weekend. I now understand that this deadline has been changed? One of the points I raised in that Submission was that I did not believe that the claim made by the Deputy Premier, that bans on tree clearing were necessary to lower Queensland's emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere, were factually correct - as Queensland was already a net CO₂ sink. In other words, more CO₂ is withdrawn (on average) from the atmosphere above Queensland each year, than is added to it.

A paper has just been published in *Nature Climate Change* [doi:10.1038/nclimate3004](https://doi.org/10.1038/nclimate3004) (on line 25 April 2016) which reinforces the position I put forward in my Submission (see World map below and note where Australia and Queensland fit on the accompanying colour scale). [Leaf area is the architecture which supports photosynthesis in plants and thus their carbon capture and storage.]

Importantly these results record trends observed over a 27 year (1982 – 2009) monitoring period. Members of the AEC will be fully aware that this time included the most active period of approved tree clearing in the State's history. These trends are also another independent source of evidence that supports the documented woody plant (tree/shrub) thickening noted in my Submission - and which covered similar/over-lapping time-frames.

Thanks for your consideration of this new information, along with that in my broader official Submission.

Sincerely

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