

Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation
Amendment Bill 2016

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

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Closing date for submissions is 25 April 2016.

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Agriculture and Environment
Committee
Parliament House
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Yes, part

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which sections are
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Reason for confidentiality:

The environment and associated agriculture cannot be managed by continuous swinging political regulation!

My name is Malcolm Dyer. I am a third generation beef cattle producer in the upper reaches of the Belyando River (Burdekin catchment) at least 600 kilometres from the coast via these rivers.

These proposed changes to vegetation management regulations will make it impossible to plan and budget any kind of land development programme to assist in drought proofing and overall financial viability. The Indecision creates hesitancy in bank lending.

These 3 to 4 year political cycles and associated legislations undermines progress and confidence within the agriculture industry, devaluing property and creating red/green tape and uncertainty. **Any benefit in having in place a PMAV, HVA permit, grazing BMP, or freehold tenure can be deemed worthless by the stroke of a left wing pen!**

The increase in category 'R' vegetation and the inclusion of high value regrowth further erodes development and inhibits sustainability. Re-introducing reverse onus of proof is a direct insult to farmers and graziers.

The inequity in the proposed legislation is blatant.

- ❖ Why are areas of less than 2000 ha exempt?! Surely some of the worst land managers would be hobby farmers on their small blocks along the coastal hinterland.
- ❖ Why are urban areas along the coast exempt from monitoring and regulation?

My family have been custodians of the bulk of this land since 1909. My recollections can go back almost 50 years and I can assure you that all the land hereabouts is in better condition now than it was 20/30/40 years ago. The thick grass cover and minimal erosion limit soil and nutrient run-off, because it is grass that stops erosion, not trees.

I urge the committee to reconsider the re-instatement of this stifling, useless and costly legislation.



Malcolm Dyer

20/04/2016