

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [vminquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Submission in Support for the Reinstatement of the Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016  
**Date:** Friday, 22 April 2016 11:37:23 AM

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To the Research Director,  
Agriculture and Environment Committee,

I am very concerned about the current land clearing legislation in Queensland and would like to see the reinstatement of the Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

The current legislation:

- does not support the loss of habitat to animals especially threatened icons such as the koala.
- does not show concern for the millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> released from tree clearing
- does not show concern for the impact on the Great Barrier Reef from the loss of local Great Barrier Reef catchments
- gives power and precedence to commercial development over local communities, native animals and the natural environment
- does not support remnant vegetation especially 80+ year old trees that if replaced will not reach the same maturity in our life time

I think that the Bill is good because:

1. Removes the ability to get a permit clear for so-called High Value Agriculture, and thus stop large-scale clearing of remnant woodlands.
2. Restores protections for ecologically important regrowing woodlands ('High Value Regrowth') on freehold and Aboriginal land.
3. Restores protections for trees next to riverbanks ('riparian areas') and extending provisions from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.
4. 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.
5. It makes much of the prospective legislation retrospective to 17 March, in an attempt to deter panic clearing and panic applications.

Regards,  
Alison Warner

[REDACTED]  
Everton Hills Q 4053

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