

SJ & MM Daley
Injune 4454,

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Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000
Email: yminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Chair and Committee Members

Submission to Committee on Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

Simon and I are from families who have been on the land for generations, we are afraid to say it's not going to continue if we are not recognized for the great work we do in land management to produce food. We own two cattle properties in the Fitzroy Basin (over 500 kms from the coast) affected by the proposed Vegetation Amendment Bill. We consider we are environmentalists in our own right. From our experience we need biodiversity within the catchment areas of the Great Barrier Reef. Having a blanket approach to allow a mono culture of trees along these water courses will not reduce erosion and sediment entering the Great Barrier Reef. Grass cover is as important as trees.

We invest in the land with weed control, vegetation regrowth management, land degradation and of course grazing management to optimize our business. In doing this we pour a lot of our money back into our environmental surrounds - our properties. We pride ourselves on being good land managers! If we were not to do this, our land would not be profitable, hence we would not be in business. We feel very offended with the proposed bill, as this is not a reasonable or workable bill that will enable us to continue to run our business. We would be unable to control regrowth.

We have recently bought a property that has not had a PMAV locked in, we are in the process of aligning this with our other properties. However we may not be able to do this with the proposed bill who will not allow us to lock our PMAV in. Surely businesses have a right to apply for a PMAV, of which government (labour) encouraged when in term a few years ago. The other issue we have, is that the PMAVS are often not correct. This is the second property that we have had to contest. For example our first property was colour coded with remnant vegetation over our garden and house amongst other areas that had been cleared for years. We spent \$3300 dollars to address the department's mistakes. We are now in the same process. As producers the onus is on us for the department's mistakes on a simple PMAV. Who's to say they won't make a mistake on other imagery and wrongly accuse people of being guilty and then they have to prove their innocence.

We urge those who read this, to consider our needs to enable us to continue to do business. We have two boys who have moved to the city to further their careers. When we asked if they were interested in continuing our legacy their reply was "why would we want to come home when we see all the heart ache and red tape you are being confronted with - too hard". We need support from Government to run our Agricultural businesses so we can continue to provide sustainable food production and a future of certainty for the next generation.

Yours sincerely,
Simon and Myriam Daley.