

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Submission to the Inquiry into the Queensland land clearing reform Bill - Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Friday, 22 April 2016 11:39:03 PM

Attention Research Director, Agriculture and Environment Committee,
Parliament House, Brisbane, QLD 4000

Tewantin, Friday April 22, 2016

Why I care about land clearing? Because of:

The loss of habitats and impacts on iconic threatened critters such as the koala are becoming drastic. Many of these critters are coming on the endangered list and some even on the extinction list

Impacts from tree clearing on an already sick Great Barrier Reef from Great Barrier Reef catchments.

Climate change and release of millions of tonnes of CO2 from tree clearing, combined with the effects of the exploitation of fossil fuels and new coal mines to come.

Increase in non sustainable population will demand more and more of this land clearing to a level where the environment will no longer be able to cope with.

Ancient forests will take hundred of years to be renewed

Why I support the Bill and recommend its passing? I think the Bill is good because it:

Removes the ability to get a permit clear for so-called High Value Agriculture, and thus stop large-scale clearing of remnant woodlands.

Restores protections for ecologically important regrowing woodlands ('High Value Regrowth') on freehold and Aboriginal land.

Restores protections for trees next to riverbanks ('riparian areas') and extending provisions from some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.

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.

It makes much of the prospective legislation retrospective to 17 March, in an attempt to deter panic clearing and panic applications.

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