

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Submissions to the Inquiry into the QLD land clearing reform Bill
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To Research Director

I write in response to the Inquiry into the QLD land clearing reform Bill. I wish to express my support of the proposed Bill. We are at a point in time where so little is left of our incredible natural heritage Australia is famous for. It is with great urgency that we must protect the remnants before it is too late. Protecting natural bushland is not only valuable for the appreciation of natural wonders for generations to come but it protects threatened species, stops the detrimental impact of release of millions of tonnes of CO2 into the atmosphere from clear felling. Furthermore, trees are vital to keep salination at bay and to provide a haven for bio diversity, which in turn increases the health of the land for both farmers, tourists and wildlife.

I therefore support the reforms as it removes permits of High Value Agriculture which will prevent large scale clearing of remaining forest. It importantly restores vital protections for forests in rehabilitation, High Value Regrowth, on freehold and Aboriginal land. I think it is fantastic that it restores protection for riparian areas and alters the provisions for some to all Great Barrier Reef catchments.

I am pleased to see that the claim of mistaken clearing is no longer a defence, thereby reinstating the starting presumption that a landholder is responsible for clearing on their property. Furthermore I fully support the retrospective effect of the legislation to 17th March to deter panic clearing actions.

Time has run out for remnant woodlands to be squabbled over, I think it essential that they are protected at all costs.

Many thanks

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