

## SUBMISSION TO:

Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation  
Amendment Bill 2016

## SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

Closing date for submissions is 25 April 2016.

Please complete and submit this form with your submission to:

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vminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

Post: Fax: 07 3553 6699

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Agriculture and Environment  
Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Organisation or individual:

KATHLEEN COLLESS SUPERANNUATION FUND

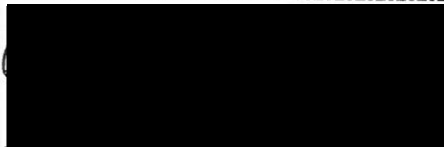
Principal contact:

KATHLEEN COLLESS

Position:

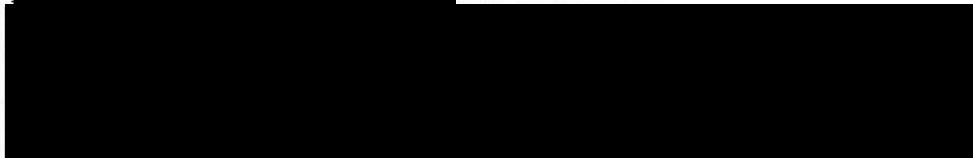
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Is all or part of your  
submission confidential?Yes, all ☐Yes, part ☐No ☒☒ (copy box to indicate answer)If part, please identify  
which sections are  
confidential:

/

N/A

Reason for confidentiality:

/

N/A

## SUBMISSION

I provide my submission in support of the continuation of the Current Vegetation Management Act 1999 and rejection of the changes proposed in the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 ("the Bill").

My overriding issue with the Bill is that its introduction in the Queensland Parliament on 17<sup>th</sup> March represents **yet another** variation to the Vegetation Management Framework, which has been amended over 18 times since its introduction in 1999. This constant change in legislation severely impacts on the ability of farm managers to plan and implement effective long-term property and business management decisions. Ecological processes work in much longer timeframes and can be severely compromised when mismatching regulations are enforced. Farmers have long called for certainty with the vegetation management regulatory framework. With the Bill being introduced when farmers are on their knees with over 86% of Queensland in drought conditions, it should come as no surprise that I am totally opposed to continued uncertainty and attacks on the viability of myself, the long-term sustainability of my business as well as attacks on fellow farmers.

CHANGES TO THE VEG. MGMT. ACT WILL SEVERELY INHIBIT MY EFFORTS TO DEVELOP SECTIONS OF MY PROPERTY TO ENSURE VIABILITY, AND THE FUTURE OF MY CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN.

ONE MAKES PLANS TO DEVELOP & THE STATE WANTS TO INHIBIT DEVELOPMENT IN THE CAPES

### 1. Removing High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture from the Vegetation Management Framework

#### Background

HVA and IHVA permits provide farmers in northern Queensland with the opportunity to grow fodder and grain for supplementing in the dry season and finishing off stock for market.

The removal of HVA and IHVA is in direct conflict with the Australian Government White Paper on the Development of Northern Australia. The Changes to the Vegetation Management Framework will prevent indigenous and non-indigenous land holders from developing agriculture projects.

\*B. NO ONE FROM THE STATE GOVT. EXPLAINED THE "HVA" & "IHVA" CHANGES. I HAD PLANS IN TRAIN TO PUT DOWN A BORE & GROW FODDER FOR GUP CATTLE TO FEED THE POPULATION. I THOUGHT THE GOVT. WANTED TO DEVELOP THE NORTH

TIMBER THICKENING IS PREVENTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PASTURES ON REGROWTH AREAS. WE WANTED TO EXTEND OUR ALLUVIAL AREAS.

ALL THESE BUREAUCRATIC CHANGES DO NOT

2. Re-introducing Reverse Onus-of-Proof

HELP THE LAND OWNER

Background

The inclusion of Reverse Onus of Proof in Queensland Government's Vegetation Management Framework is a direct affront to the rights and liberties of farmers. Reverse Onus relegates farmers clearing vegetation to a level below that of criminals, where they are denied common justice under Section 24 of the Criminal Code: Mistake of fact. In Queensland farmers will be presumed guilty until they are proven innocent. They are also refused the defence in making a mistake, despite known faults with the mapping layers.

\*C. THE GOVT. IS CALLING ME A CRIMINAL FOR LOOKING AFTER OUR LAND. WE PAID FOR THE LAND & ARE LOOKING AFTER IT RESPONSIBLY — NOW SOME CITY FOLK ARE SAYING WE ARE IRRESPONSIBLE. LET THE POLITICIANS/GOVT. EMPLOYEES GET OUT OF THE OFFICE & SEE FOR THEMSELVES BEFORE ACCUSING US

CRIMINAL INTENT

3. Including High Value Regrowth as an additional layer of regulation under the Vegetation Management Framework on leasehold, freehold and indigenous land

Background

The re-inclusion of High Value Regrowth (HVR) as an additional layer of regulation on leasehold, freehold and indigenous land is an overt grab by Queensland Government in search of targets for meeting international treaties such as the Kyoto Protocol and more recently the 2015 Paris Climate Deal.

\*E. THE GOVT. SHOULD BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT ITS FARMERS RATHER THAN OVERSEAS BUREAUCRATIC ORGANISATION'S CLIMATE CONTROL THEORIES. NO ONE EXPLAINS THESE CHANGES. T.V. NEWS PRESENTS ONE SIDE (GREENIES) ONLY.

NO EXPLANATION TO THE LAND OWNER.