



Submission No. 614

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Monto, 4630

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23/04/2016

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
Brisbane, 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to voice my concerns over any changes to the current Vegetation Management Act

I have been a landowner in the North Burnett region since 1960. I spent a considerable amount of money in the 1970's Freeholding my land so I could manage the timber and develop my land as not only grazing country but also valuable timber reserves of sawmilling and fencing timbers.

I have never believed in wholesale clearing of the timber, but have endeavoured over the years to selectively thin the timber to promote the growth of the better quality timber and pasture growth for my grazing herd. The only areas of land that I have cleared are small areas for cultivation that I grow fodder crops on for my grazing herd and haymaking.

I am 73 years of age and have lived all my life in this particular area and believe that there are as many trees in this region now as when I was a young person.

I am the fourth generation of my family to live and work the land in the North Burnett. My late father selected his country here in the late 1920's and he taught

me to only thin the better areas and keep the high value timber.

I am now working with my own children and grandchildren on our properties and they wish to remain in agriculture and work this land.

If these changes to the Vegetation Management Act are forced on us I fear for the future of my family in agriculture. These laws will make my country worthless. We will not be able to make a living from it and it will be worthless to sell. We need to be able to selectively thin the regrowth and sell the better timber for sawmilling and fencing timber.

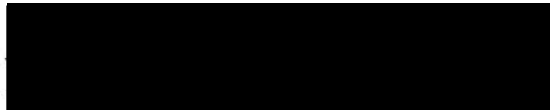
I wish to continue to manage my land with my family in the manner that I have done now for 56 years and give my family the future that myself, my wife and my children have worked so hard to achieve.

I strongly object to any changes to the current Vegetation Management Act.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this submission.

Yours Faithfully

Neville Williams

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Neville Williams.