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29 April 2016

Committee Secretary
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Queensland Parliament
vminquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

Submission to the inquiry into the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

Over the last 10 years I have travelled extensively throughout Australia, especially the agricultural regions of the country, and developed a sound understanding of the landscapes and the supporting landscape processes.

During this period, I have travelled through the coastal regions of Queensland Gold Coast – Cairns and the inland Hebel – Charters Towers and on to Townsville, as well as through parts of the south east. These journeys have given me a good insight into the state of many of Queensland's landscapes including land uses, land management and, most importantly for the present matter, the state of many of these landscapes.

I am concerned about the significant levels of degradation of many Queensland landscapes.

My understanding is that historical land clearing has contributed to the present, observable levels of land degradation across Queensland's agricultural landscapes.

I am aware that land clearing has increased over the past 2-3 years as a consequence of policy changes at the State Government level.

I am also aware that the *Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016* attempts to redress the situation.

I support the provisions of the *Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016* that is presently being considered by your Committee, because of my concern about the serious levels of land degradation now obvious across much of Queensland, and because of the well-established link between land clearing and land degradation.

I respectfully request the Committee to support the provisions of the Bill and progress it through the Parliament as quickly as possible.

Yours Sincerely

Lyubka Simeonova