

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Environment Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 (EPOLA).
Date: Tuesday, 4 October 2016 9:57:58 AM

To the Agriculture and Environment Parliamentary Committee
(aec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Please accept this as a submission to the *Environment Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 (EPOLA)*.

- I support the Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 but it needs to be tougher in relation to ecological sustainability. For the sake of future generations the principals of Ecologically Sustainable development must be followed or biological diversity may decrease and ecosystems disrupted.
- It is most important that mining water licences consider Ecologically Sustainable Development and the Precautionary Principle.
- Most mines are currently required to obtain a water licence under the Water Act 2000 (Qld) for taking and/or interfering with associated groundwater all other groundwater.
- It is important that people affected by the granting of a licence can challenge the decision in the Land Court.
- Water impacts need to be assessed during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) stage of an application for an Environmental Authority (EA) for a mine.
- Projects that are already in the system but were expecting to not need a licence must obtain an “associated water licence” .
- Anyone applying for water licences, Farmers and other businesses, must adhere to the precautionary principle and the principles of ESD. but mining projects have a far greater impact on water.

[REDACTED]

Erica Siegel