

**N. McLAREN** MBBS FRANZCP  
PSYCHIATRIST

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CONSULTANT

NORTHERN PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES Pty. Ltd.,  
[REDACTED]

October 2nd 2016

Mr G Butcher, MP  
Chairman  
Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
By email

Dear Mr Butcher

**Re: Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016**

I understand it is proposed to allow mining companies free and unrestricted access to groundwater supplies in Qld. I do not believe that this could ever be seen as in the interests of the people of this state. The day when anybody could regard the natural environment as merely something to be plundered with no regard for the future has long gone. Any company that wishes to use groundwater should be required to obtain a licence, as under existing legislation, so that usage can be monitored and, if necessary, restricted. On my reading of the proposed legislation, if a company overused water, there is nothing anybody could do to stop them. This is dangerous and inconsistent with the concept of good governance of natural resources.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to appear in person before your committee but hope you will take this submission into account.

Yours faithfully

