

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 (Qld)  
**Date:** Friday, 7 October 2016 3:55:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Dear Research Director,

In relation to the Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 (Qld) that was recently introduced on 13 September 2016, we request this be considered for amendment as this has a major impact on the future of our business, New Hope Corporation Pty Ltd and its employees, service providers, contractors, locals and many others.

New Acland Coal Pty Ltd have put in an inordinate efforts and spent months working on the approval of our stage 3 project, to date we have completed the following:

- Provided all information on groundwater impacts through the EIS/AEIS process;
- This information was then put on public notification twice through Coordinator-General's process and again when the combined public notice for the mining leases and final draft EA went out;
- Invested two (2) weeks in Land Court discussing groundwater and its potential impacts.

Should the above mentioned legislation be passed without amendment, the future of New Hope Corporation Pty Ltd will be in jeopardy. Some key impacts for New Acland Coal Pty Ltd will include:

- The requirement to provide **additional** groundwater information to the state government to obtain a water license. New Hope Corporation Pty Ltd has recently spent two (2) weeks in land court discussing groundwater and its potential impacts;
- In order to gather this new information we would be required to conduct a groundwater baseline assessment that could potentially take 6 to 12 months to collect. There is a great possibility New Acland Coal Pty Ltd will end up in land court again, which would greatly delay New Acland Coal's stage 3 expansion;
- For New Hope Corporation Pty Ltd to be granted a Water Licence, we must first be granted a Mining Lease;
- This delay will put great pressure on our ability to maintain the continuity of our mining operations and will have a great impact on the jobs of many.

This gives our Company a high level of uncertainty, as well as process risks, timeframes and costs. This would impact me as an individual as I currently reside on my own, if I was to lose my career this would put a great deal of stress on my financial position.

Regards,

**Christina Eastall**  
*Procurement Administration Officer*

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**New Hope Group** | Corporate Office  
T: +61 7 34180 508

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<http://www.newhopegroup.com.au/files/images/Newsig0916.png>



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