

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Submission to Committee on Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
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Research Director
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Parliament House

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Dear Chair and Committee Members,

Re: Submission to Committee on Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission to your inquiry into the Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 (Bill).

As my father was a hydraulic engineer I have always been very aware of the sensitive balance of water availability.

Neither gas nor coal should be mined any longer let alone have free unfettered access to water. Once those artesian sources are depleted the water is gone. The precautionary principle (in effect that if we do not understand the likely results of the proposed impacts sufficiently) we should not allow the activity to be undertaken. Hence the Bill needs to be amended so that the 'associated water licence' is assessed against the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD principles) as necessary for every other water licence assessment

As I'm on the other side of the country the opportunity to appear before the Committee in their hearing into this inquiry will not be practical.

Yours sincerely

Judith Odgaard