

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Friday, 7 October 2016 6:10:45 PM

With respect,

Our groundwater in Queensland is arguably the most precious natural resource we have. We cannot afford to squander it.

It is essential that mining companies go through the water licence assessment process just as farmers and landholders are required to, and the people of Queensland need submission and appeal rights to a judicial Court when we recognise practices that are dangerous to our groundwater resources.

We support the improvements proposed in the Bill, requiring stronger groundwater impact assessment for projects at the environmental authority stage.

We also support the requirement that those projects already going through the approvals process (i.e. for which dot point 3 does not apply) must obtain an 'associated water licence', which needs to be assessed against principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD), such as the precautionary principle, like all other water licences.

The protection of this precious resource of our groundwater is in your hands, and we ask you, as our representatives in our Queensland Government to ensure that all mining companies comply with the requirements placed on our farmers and landholders.

This issue goes beyond political alliances.

Yours Sincerely,
Margaret Airoidi
Simon Sheehy