From:

Agriculture and Environment Committee

**Subject:** I support strengthening Queensland"s water laws

**Date:** Friday, 7 October 2016 4:37:14 PM

To the Agriculture and Environment Parliamentary Committee,

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

Water is crucial to Queensland, for food growing and to maintain healthy ecosystems.

I support the passage of the EPOLA Bill (and the associated Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2015) because it will result in improved protections for groundwater resources over Newman era water laws.

However I would also like to see that the new 'associated water licence' is required to be assessed against the principles of 'ecologically sustainable development'. This will ensure that our ecosystems – on which we all rely – are properly considered when granting water licences.

