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By email: [arec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:arec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear committee

***Waste Reduction and Recycling and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012***

This submission is made by Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (**Ergon Energy**) in response to the *Waste Reduction and Recycling and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 (Bill)*.

Ergon Energy is a Queensland Government-owned corporation that supplies electricity to approximately 700,000 customers across a vast operating area of over one million square kilometres – around 97% of Queensland. Ergon Energy's operations include activities such as waste management and development within coastal areas, upon which the Bill will have an impact.

Ergon Energy supports the following amendments proposed by the Bill:

- Removal of requirements for government owned corporations to prepare waste reduction and recycling plans under the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*.
- Creation of a head of power, under the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995 (CPMA)*, to recognise self-assessable codes for development regulated through the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009 (SPA)*. Ergon Energy and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (**DEHP**) are currently discussing the development of a self assessable code for electrical infrastructure located in the coastal management district. It is anticipated that the proposed amendments to the CPMA will allow this matter to be progressed.

These amendments are likely to reduce the administrative burden from regulation on Ergon Energy and result in reduced costs associated with that administration.

Ergon Energy Corporation Limited ABN 50 087 646 062  
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It is also noted that the Bill proposes amendments to the *Environmental Protection (Greentape Reduction) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012* resulting in amendments to the *Environmental Protection Act 2012 (EPA)*. These amendments are unlikely to have an adverse impact on Ergon Energy's operations.

Ergon Energy also understands the DEHP is currently considering further amendments to the EPA in relation to the re-classification of certain low risk wastes, including treated timber. These amendments are likely to have an impact on the way Ergon Energy disposes of treated timber power poles, which are considered a regulated waste despite posing a low potential environmental risk. Ergon Energy would support amendments that remove the unnecessary disposal requirements for treated timber power poles and we ask that we be consulted on the re-classification of wastes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like Ergon Energy to provide any further details in support of this submission.

Yours faithfully



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