

21 October 2013

Mr Ian Rickuss MP
Chairman,
Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee
Queensland Parliament,
Cnr George and Alice St
Brisbane Qld 4000.

via email arec@parliament.qld.gov.au

**RE: Submission to
North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act
Amendment Bill 2013**

The Redland City Chamber of Commerce represents business and commercial interests in Redland City.

We understand Parliament is considering the above bill which will extend the life of the Enterprise mine to 2035. Please accept this letter as a formal submission from the Redland City Chamber of Commerce to the Bill.

The Chamber supports the proposed legislation as it is important for Redland City there is certainty regarding the Sibelco operations on North Stradbroke Island.

The North Stradbroke Island community relies on sand mining to provide the economic platform for local businesses. Sibelco is a major business in Redland City and the largest employer on North Stradbroke Island. Unless an alternate economic driver on North Stradbroke Island is established prior to the closure of sand mining on the Island, the community will suffer.

The North Stradbroke mine is also a significant contributor to Redland City. This is not restricted to the economic contributions and employment generation but extends to the broader inputs into the local community.

Sibelco generates significant economic activity on the mainland particularly within the Redland City Council area. Many of our member businesses are beneficiaries of Sibelco's operations.

While the Island is a premiere tourism destination there are limits to the ability of Tourism to support the Island's economy, particularly given seasonal variances and the limited ability for value added services. The mines presence increases the effectiveness of the barge services and reduces the cost of travel to and from the island for residents, businesses and tourists.

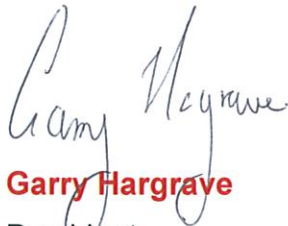
The Tourism industry and Sibelco's operations have successfully cohabitated for many years. It is the desire of the Chamber and its members to see both industries to continue to enjoy support and certainty.

The current legislation prescribes a 2019 end date for sand mining. Without the passing of this Bill the Chamber holds grave concerns for business and commercial interests on both North Stradbroke and for parts of Redland City. The extension of the mining operations as proposed in the Bill will generate confidence in the Redlands community and certainty for the economy. The longer period will encourage further businesses and investment in Redland City.

As representatives of local businesses within the Redland Council area, we recommend the Queensland Parliament support this Bill. With this in place members of the Chamber can plan for growth and increased prosperity for all.

Thank you for the opportunity for us to submit.

Yours Sincerely



Garry Hargrave
President