

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Re: Submission to the Inquiry into North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act Amendment Bill 2013 (Bill)
Date: Monday, 28 October 2013 7:20:43 AM

Dr. Brett Roe

[REDACTED]

Point Lookout, QLD, 4183

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Re: Submission to the Inquiry into North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act Amendment Bill 2013 (Bill)

Dear Committee,

As a resident of NSI for over a decade, I feel it is necessary to submit to you my strong opposition to the continuance of mining on NSI. If you carefully read the submission by Jan Aldenhoven; in it she clearly outlines the breadth of concerns shared by myself and many other residents.

Without reiterating the information held in Jan's submission, I would like to express the following points.

- 1) Everyone involved in this issue agrees the economic future of NSI is tourism and related nature-based and sustainable industries and services. Every day that mining continues, the 'power' of that economic future is reduced.

- 2) The bill proposed to extend mining on NSI is driven by political aspirations and deals, as well as the economic aspirations of a small group.

From a broader perspective, the amount of future profits (that will remain in Australia) generated by the extension of mining on NSI, when compared to the National (or Queensland) GDP is minuscule. However, the value of the ecosystems that will be impacted are truly priceless both in intangible ways, and the tangible revenue generated by future tourism business.

Note that the wages paid to the local residents working at the SIBELCO is truly a

shame when compared to the average wage of their counterparts working at mines on mainland Australia. This is very telling as the how much SIBELCO 'cares' about its employees.

3) Simply put, if sand mining did not exist on NSI now, any attempt to place a sand mining operation on NSI would be futile, as the thought of placing a sand mine on the iconic and ecologically sensitive island that is NSI is ridiculous.

If you listen to NSI tourists conversations, it is common to hear them say what a shame it is that this beautiful island is being destroyed by mining.

4) Attempts of land restoration post mining, however intended, can not re-design the type of ecosystem that has taken thousands of years to develop. No amount of money or expertise can obtain a pre-mining landscape.

5) The argument that NSI will become destitute without a sand mine is absurd. Even without assistance, the natural forces of capitalism will ensure the emergence of a new economy. And given the locals are so passionate about this economic transformation, I have full confidence in a seamless transition.

If this bill passes, those responsible for passing it should be aware that they are not acting in the best interests of Australia, its heritage, or its people. Why extend mining just so an off-shore international company can put a few more quid in their pocket, at the expense of the future of NSI's ecological and economic security.

I sincerely and strongly request that you to deny this bill, and let the future of NSI shift from an economy of destruction to a economy of preservation and respect.

Thank you for your time.

Brett Roe

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