

MARY POLLARD

[REDACTED]

FLINDERS BEACH

NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND 4183

[REDACTED]

28TH OCTOBER 2013.

AGRICULTURE, RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

RE: NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY AND ANOTHER ACT
AMENDMENT BILL 2013.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A SUBMISSION TO THE AREC CONCERNING THE ABOVE BILL.

I HAVE LIVED ON NORTH STRADBROKE ISLAND (STRADDIE) FOR 25 YEARS AND DURING THAT TIME HAVE WITNESSED HOW MUCH THE MINING COMPANY ON STRADDIE CONTRIBUTES TO THE ISLAND'S ECONOMY.

THE COMPANY EMPLOYS APPROX 300 LOCAL RESIDENTS 20 PER CENT OF WHOM ARE INDIGENOUS.

APART FROM THE EMPLOYMENT ISSUE – THE COMPANY DONATE TO A LOT OF THE ISLANDS COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS – SURF LIFESAVING CLUB, FOOTBALL CLUB, VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE, GOLF CLUB, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MARIE ROSE MEDICAL CENTRE, RSL CLUB, INDOOR BOWLS CLUB, MORETON BAY RESEARCH CENTRE, SALT WATER MURRIS, ELDERS IN COUNCIL AND VARIOUS EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS. THERE ARE TOO MANY ORGANISATIONS TO MENTION THEM ALL BUT THEY HAVE ALL BEEN GRATEFUL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THE MINING COMPANY AND IF MINING IS ALLOWED TO CONTINUE INTO THE FUTURE IT WILL MEAN THESE FUNDS WILL STILL BE FORTHCOMING.

THE SAND MINING COMPANY IS ALSO ONE OF THE FIRST TO OFFER HELP IF THERE IS A BUSH FIRE ON THE ISLAND – THEY HAVE ALL THE HEAVY EQUIPMENT ALREADY HERE AND HAVE BEEN CALLED ON IN NUMEROUS OCCASSIONS FOR THEIR HELP – WHICH THEY GIVE FREELY OF (BOTH MACHINES AND MAN POWER)

MY CONCERN WHEN MINING FINISHES IS THE IMACT ON FERRY SERVICES TO THE ISLAND. THE FERRY COMPANY HAS ALREADY STATED THAT THERE IS A REAL POSSIBILITY OF ONLY RUNNING ONE SERVICE A DAY TO THE ISLAND.

ALSO HOUSE AND LAND VALUES HAVE ALREADY DROPPED CONSIDERABLY (NOT ONLY DUE TO GFC) BUT THE CONSENSUS IS THAT AFTER MINING FINISHES THE MARKET WILL BE FLOODED WITH

HOUSES FOR SALE (AS WITNESSED WITH NATIVE TITLE AND NATIONAL PARK ANNOUNCEMENTS)AS RESIDENTS LOSE THEIR JOBS AND MOVE OFF THE ISLAND.

THE SHOPS ON THE ISLAND WILL TAKE A BLOW AS NUMBERS DECREASE AND VIABILITY WILL BECOME QUESTIONABLE.

I REALISE THAT MINING WAS ALWAYS GOING TO CEASE – BUT IF THIS BILL IS PASSED IT WILL GIVE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS'S LONGER THAN 5 YEARS TO TRANSITION FROM SAND MINING TO AN ALTERNATIVE ECONOMY.

ACCORDING TO ALL THE RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT IS AVAILABLE – THERE ARE NO CHANGES TO THE EXISTING NATIONAL PARK ESTATE AND NATIVE TITLE ACT.

I HOPE THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW THIS BILL AND VOTE IN A FAVOURABLE LIGHT IN EXTENDING SAND MINING UNTIL 2035.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,

MARY POLLARD.