From:

To: Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee

Subject: Submission to the Inquiry into the North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act

Amendment Bill 2013

Date: Monday, 28 October 2013 12:06:27 PM

As a Queensland resident and visitor to North Stradbroke Island for the purposes of ecotourism, I ask that the Parliamentary Committee examining the new North Stradbroke mining Bill should consider not allowing the North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act Amendment Bill 2013 to proceed for the following reasons:

1. The Federal Environment Department is investigating Sibelco's non-compliance with the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

- 2. Queenslanders should have the right to object to a mining extension and challenge a renewal in court, as per the Mineral Resources Act which applies everywhere else in Queensland.
- 3. A private company should not be given preferential treatment by the government by way of a special law that bypasses the Mineral Resources Act, particularly when that company is under investigation and currently facing criminal charges in the Queensland Magistrates Court.

North Stradbroke Island is a site with significant environmental and scientific value, and with the potential for long term sustainable economic development in the area of ecotourism. It is more valuable to Queenslanders as a natural resource for long term tourism, recreation and scientific research than for short-term exploitation by a privately owned company from overseas.

In addition to the above points, I would ask that the Committee consider that only one week has been given to members of the public to comment on the proposed changes. This should not be considered sufficient consultation on this topic of great public interest.

Personal submission from:

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