

Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000  
Email: [arec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:arec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

**Re: Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act Amendment Bill 2013 (the Bill)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) is opposed to this bill. We support a speedier timeframe for transition from mining to an alternative economic future for the island and respect the wishes of the Quandamooka people. We support the development of a nature-based economy that reflects the values of the island.

We urge that the current timeframe whereby the Enterprise mine will close in 2019 or sooner be maintained, with an economic transition plan implemented as soon as possible.

**Environment**

Extending sandmining, particularly in areas earmarked as future National Parks is non-sensical and will simply undermine the natural values of the area. Allowing mining in areas that surround national park and important wetlands places unacceptable risks to those values.

We have particular concerns about the impacts to Blue Lake. Plans to provide drinking water to the Redlands from this site were shelved due to the unacceptable risks posed by such activities, yet the bill will allow for mining to occur in close proximity.

**Economy**

The previous government established a community engagement program to develop alternative economic transition plans. It is our understanding that this process has not been continued by the current government. It seems strange that having had a process in train that the government would stop this and then claim that a significantly longer period (29 years) is now required for transition. Having spoken with those involved with the previous transition consultation, there seems to be no report or explanation that has been provided to support this extension of the transition period.

**Native Title**

It is our understanding that this bill has been drafted with little consultation with the Quandamooka people, who have a Native Title Agreement.

It is our understanding that the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation believe that the bill breaches court orders and is inconsistent with the Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

### **Consultation**

In our view there has been completely inadequate consultation on the development of this bill. Even the Quandamooka people, who have native title rights have been largely excluded. The only party that seems to have been fully consulted and briefed is the mining company.

We urge the Committee to oppose this bill. We believe it will be detrimental to the environment on the island, particularly to areas designated for future national parks. No reasons have been provided as to why an economic transition could not be developed and implemented prior to 2019. The Quandamooka people have not been adequately consulted (apparently because they oppose the extension to mining) and believe that the bill is inconsistent with the ILUA.

Toby Hutcheon  
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Queensland Conservation