

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act Amendment Bill 2013
Date: Monday, 28 October 2013 4:12:35 PM

Dear Committee,

I am seriously concerned about legislation to permit sand mining on North Stradbroke Island. I have had the good fortune to visit the island and see its unique features. On one visit a group of Japanese tourists were enthralled to see a pod of dolphins surfing off Point Lookout. I have not seen that anywhere else, and I have travelled a good deal.

It is easy to see how attractive the island is to tour groups. If we want to increase tourism to the Brisbane area, and have tourists stay longer, areas like North Stradbroke are ideal attractions, very accessible for day trips or extended stays. As the second largest sand island in the world, North Stradbroke already attracts between 300,000 and 400,000 people a year. This can continue and increase.

Sand mining, on the other hand, provides a one-off source of profits, and seriously reduces the variety of terrain available for visitors activities. I am old enough to remember sand mining in the Gold Coast area, something that is, I hope, unthinkable today. Replacing landforms after mining is difficult, and it takes a long time for vegetation to regenerate - leaving areas that are less attractive to visitors.

I note that the Bill proposes to extend sand mining on the island to 2035, surely long enough to wreck the natural charms which are the island's real source of long term prosperity.

I hope the Committee will have the wisdom to reject a proposal for short term gain for a few people, in favour of securing the island's long term assets.

Yours sincerely,

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