From:

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: Tuesday, 29 October 2013 8:29:10 AM

## **Parliamentary Committee Members:**

Dear Sir(s)/Madam

## North Stradbroke Island Protection and Sustainability and Another Act Amendment Bill 2013

It is with fear and real concern that I have learnt of the government's bill to amend legislation which can only have a negative impact on North Stradbroke Island – a jewel at Brisbane's doorstop.

In summary I am very concerned for the following reasons -

- The Ramsar listed wetlands' proximity to the Enterprise mine is of real concern
- The Bill removes the requirement for continuing studies of the largely old growth forest which is in the mine's path. Both Koalas & Glossy Black Cockatoos to name two species will not be protected
- Mining is short term process and leaves a lot of destruction no matter how you look at it. NSI is a wonderful tourist destination. This will be jeopardised by further mining.
- The Bill fails to provide fails to restore the rights of Queenslanders to object to a mining extension and challenge a renewal in court. That right is available to them under the Mineral Resources Act which applies everywhere else in Queensland.
- Sibelco appears to receive preferential treatment by bypassing the Mineral Resources act
- It currently faces criminal charges in the Qld Mags Court

The government seems to say what the public thinks is of importance. I haven't met one person (other than those employed by the mines) who think sand mining is a good idea on North Stradbroke Island.

Perhaps Mr Newman can apply his own brand of populism to this question too.

Regards Elizabeth Clouston

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