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Sub # 8

6 January 2013

Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
By email to: [arec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:arec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Committee Chair,

**Re: Submission to the *Biosecurity Bill 2013***

We refer to the *Biosecurity Bill 2013* (**Bill**) and thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Bill.

This submission is made by Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (**Ergon Energy**). Ergon Energy is a Queensland Government-owned corporation that supplies electricity to approximately 700,000 customers across a vast operating area that covers approximately 97% of Queensland.

Ergon Energy has its own environmental systems and processes to manage biosecurity matters, particularly weeds. Ergon Energy's current environmental systems and processes are generally consistent with the intent of the Bill and in this regard implementation costs are not envisaged to be significant.

**Section 105 Consultation about Codes of Practice**

Due to the extent of its network and importance of its biosecurity obligations, it is important that Ergon Energy is included in any consultative processes regarding the regulation made under the Bill, Codes of Practice or Guidelines that may have an impact on utility service providers. In this regard, we request the definition of *relevant entities* as used in section 105, be amended to include *utility service providers*.

**Section 107 Chief Executive may make guidelines**

Ergon requests the definition used in s105 (*relevant entity*), be applied for the preparation of guidelines in order to ensure utility service providers are not overlooked in any relevant consultation process.

**Division 4 The biosecurity register (Sections 168 to 173)**

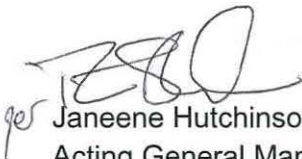
From time to time, Ergon Energy may require access to information regarding the location of *restricted places*. We suggest that the biosecurity register should be available in a spatial format so that accurate identification of risk areas in relation to Ergon Energy assets can be undertaken.

**Conclusion**

Ergon Energy looks forward to further consultation regarding the regulation, Codes of Practice and Guidelines.

If you would like Ergon Energy to provide any further details regarding this submission, please contact Peter Bullen, Environmental Projects Officer, on 07 4687 0604.

Yours sincerely



Janeene Hutchinson  
Acting General Manager, Health Safety and Environment

[Redacted contact information]