



24 March 2014

The Research Director  
Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
George St  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

The LGAQ is writing to thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Environmental Offsets Bill 2014. The LGAQ and member councils have been involved by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in the development of the Environmental Offsets Framework and Policy.

Overall, the Association would like to commend the State in the development of a Bill that has cut through unnecessary red tape for local government responsibilities.

The effectiveness of the Bill and policy rely on the interpretation of the word 'significant' in relation to impacts on matters of national, State and local environmental significance. The LGAQ understands that a significant impact may vary depending on the type of environmentally significant matter and notes that there is no clear definition to guide proponents on its interpretation within the Bill.

We have discussed this with the Department and commend their action of developing guidance material to assist proponents in identifying the level of impact associated with their respective activity.

Please feel free to contact Dorean Erhart, Principal Advisor – Natural Assets, NRM & Climate Change via telephone on (07) 3000 2202 or by email at: [dorean\\_erhart@lgaq.asn.au](mailto:dorean_erhart@lgaq.asn.au) to discuss local government input on the guidance material.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Hoffman', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Greg Hoffman PSM  
GENERAL MANAGER – ADVOCACY