

From: [Mel Bowman-Finn](#)
To: [Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee](#); [Minister for Natural Resources and Mines](#)
Subject: Submissions to the Minerals and Energy Bill 2014
Date: Tuesday, 8 July 2014 9:09:10 AM

I object to Clause 245. Limiting community notification and formal objection rights to the Land Court to "site specific" environmental authorities will, in conjunction with the above clauses, remove all existing public rights to lodge formal objections to the Land Court in up to 90% of mining projects in Queensland.

This is unacceptable and fails to recognise the positive impact of community objection rights. The same mining companies who want to limit public objections are often foreign owned. Suggestions by State government Ministers that objectors lodge frivolous or vexatious cases is entirely untrue, rather the opposite is true: there are no examples of such cases and objectors are very responsible.

In the Alpha coal case (2014) the land holders and conservation group exposed that the mining company had a lack of hard data on groundwater impacts. Public spirited objectors went to Court and saved Ellison Reef (1967) from limestone mining and helped show the importance of protecting Fraser Island, now World Heritage Listed (1971).

Make your submission here. Remember, to be considered a valid submission, you must include your contact details.

Try to use your own words, where you can.

Mel Bowman-Finn

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