

## Mineral and Energy Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 8  
**Submitted by:** Barfield Road Producer Group  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** See attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**



Melanie Shannon, Facilitator  
Barfield Road Producer Group  
2510 Barfield Road, BANANA QLD 4702  
[REDACTED]  
barfieldrpg@gmail.com

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

Clean Economy Jobs, Resources and Transport Committee,  
Parliament House

Sent via email: cejrtc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

**RE: Submission - Mineral and Energy Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024**

Formed in 2019, The Barfield Road Producer Group (BRPG) represents twenty-five multi-generational beef and grain producing families who mostly reside along Barfield Road in Central Queensland. Our group collectively manages 27 000 hectares of grazing land, 2200 hectares of farming and over 20,000 head of cattle.

The aim of our group is to lead the way in best practice agriculture through caring for our land, our people and our animals. We believe that by adopting this approach we help to build a vibrant, sustainable community and region. Organisations we work closely with are: Landcare, Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA), and The Department of Agriculture & Fisheries (DAF).

In providing this submission, The BRPG confirms support for renewable energy however has concerns about renewables on productive agricultural land and the impacts renewables may have to our rural communities.

**SUBMISSION**

- **Amendment 16 Section 7 1 (a) Coexistence Queensland's functions**; "facilitating better relationships between landholders, regional communities, the resources industry and the renewable energy industry". We believe "better relationships" should be replaced with "effective relationships". "Effective relationships" needs to be defined in the Bill as "a transparent and respectful relationship between two parties".
- **Amendment 18 Section 9A (b) (i)**. Coexistence Queensland needs to ensure a member from the Agricultural industry is chosen to represent the interests of landholders;
- **Amendment 18 Section 9A (b) (ii)**. We believe our Producer Group is well placed to represent the "interests of communities" and would like to be considered as a member.
- **Amendment 19 Section 10 (f)**. We believe the member that is chosen to represent land management needs to have significant experience or qualifications in agriculture.
- **Amendment 25 Section 29 (2)** We believe agriculture adequately represents regional communities and as such encourage Coexistence Queensland to consider an individual from the Agricultural industry to be a part of the Community Leaders Council.
- **Part 4 Division 2 184EB** – Natural Capital Accounting needs to be included in the definition of Baseline Data Collection. This would include measuring environmental assets such as vegetation, soil and sediment, fauna, water, ecosystems and microorganisms. These



measurements need to occur prior, during and at the completion of all renewable energy projects.

- **Part 4 Division 2 184ED (b)** – We recommend the Accounting for Nature framework for “baseline data collection best practice industry standards” as this is a world-leading trusted Certification Standard that provides complete transparency in the emerging field of Natural Capital Accounting. An example can be found here: <https://www.accountingfornature.org/auacc45>. This certified account was completed by a member within our group.
- **Part 4 Division 2 184EF (b)** – This needs to be amended to “a document about the data in a form that is able to be understood by the owner or occupier”. Presenting data in a form that is “reasonably likely” to be understood is too ambiguous and subjective leaving room for confusion.

In summary we ask The Committee to ensure the proposed Bill:

1. get the balance of protecting the rights of landholders and Queensland’s energy demands right ensuring food security and sustainable land management aren’t compromised.
2. has the best interests of agricultural landholders and local communities at heart.
3. includes natural capital accounting in the baseline data collection.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Mineral and Energy Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024.

Please feel free to contact me on [REDACTED] should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Melanie Shannon  
Facilitator  
On behalf of The Barfield Road Producer Group

