

4 November 2011

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CAPELLA QLD 4723
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The Research Director
Environment, Agriculture, Resources and Energy Committee
Parliament
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir / Madam

Comment on Strategic Cropping Land Bill 2011

As it stands, the proposed legislation falls short of what is required to protect the irreplaceable cropping land of Queensland.

Please thoroughly consider the following points before making a decision on this bill:

- No evidence in Queensland exists that Longwall Mining does not permanently impact on the sustainability of cropping land. Please allow time for the evidence to emerge from the cropping land already affected before allowing more impacts. Do not exempt underground mining.
- Strategic Cropping Land is exactly that. Land that has historically and sustainably been strategically cropped. The 'scientific' assessment as referenced has **no** merit or proof on the productivity of the land. History **does** have proof on whether the land is productive. Farmers must be given a large part to play in the decision as to what is SCL or not as they have practical experience, and therefore the proof required by the people of Queensland.
- Special Exemptions contained within the Bill which specifically benefit private individuals or companies to the detriment of many, is utterly and completely against the Oath taken by every Member of the Queensland Parliament. Please re-examine your Oath to the people of Queensland before considering this part of the proposed legislation.
- If your decision on the Bill causes "an over-protection" of cropping land, the Energy Resource will still be available to the people of Queensland in the future but will allow adjustments to be made as emerging evidence becomes clearer. If, on the other hand, you under-protect cropping land, you cannot undo the damage to another irreplaceable resource. Over protection of SCL is wise. Under-protection is reckless. Please be wise.

Yours faithfully



PAUL MURPHY