

Submission – Strategic Cropping Land Bill 2011

To: The Research Director,
Environment, Agriculture, Resources and Energy Committee,
Parliament House, George Street,
Brisbane..Q..4000

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As farmers on the Haystack Plain within the Darling Downs we would like to congratulate the government on this landmark legislation. It is now over three years since this issue first came to the fore and it is indeed pleasing to see such constructive legislation coming to fruition

We farm land which is recognised as some of the most inherently fertile and productive in Queensland and Australia and indeed world wide. For the government to recognise and legislate for the protection of our food producing capabilities into the future is something of which they can be justly proud.

It is imperative that exceptional circumstances are indeed rare and do not insidiously encroach upon Strategic Cropping Land gradually depleting that which the legislation is designed to protect. In particular, those contiguous areas of existing mining leases, EP's or MDL's.

Mitigation should not be allowed to become the balm for mining enterprises to proceed on SCL in the belief that money cures all. SCL is a finite resource and should be rigorously defended.

We trust that the legislation will indeed uphold the expectations of protecting our very best land for food security for future generations and thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Ian and Janet Cox
Warra

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Benefits

We acknowledge that there are benefits associated with the gas industry.

However there is a need to ensure that all measures are put in place to retain our food production land for all time as there is no greater benefit than to be able to feed the population. There is also a need to respect the present owners of the land

Thankyou for reading this submission.

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