

Submission to the Parliamentary Committee on the Strategic Cropping Land Bill of 2011.

4th November, 2011

From: Marilyn Bidstrup

WARRA 4411

I wish to thank you giving me the opportunity to comment on this submissions and to sincerely congratulate the Government in taking the time and having the initiative to bring in this legislation that is so important to all Australians – both for now and the future years to come.

As it is talked about so often in the media, that the world population will double by 2050, there is such a great need to protect our most precious resource – being our food producing land. Not only should we be able to care for all Australians but we have hugely populated neighbours to our north who will be unlikely to be able to produce enough to feed themselves.

While there seems to be a timeline when the SCL had to take place, we at Haystack Road are now left in some doubt. Our MDL 383 was with Tarong Energy but with receipt of a recent letter it has now been transferred to CS Energy.

The Bill says that development on SCL can only occur in very special circumstances. If development has permanent impact of SCL then mitigation can be fulfilled. Either by putting money into an R & D for future agriculture projects or into projects for public benefit or by paying into a mitigation fund. Mining companies seem to have endless supplies of cash and it is to be wondered if this will be a deterrent. If this land is mined then this finite resource will be gone for good. For this generation and for future generations we would strongly urge the government to protect this small percentage of land.

Thank you once again for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Bidstrup