



Ref: 3618/3380172

4 November 2011

The Research Director
Environment, Agriculture, Resources & Energy Committee
Parliament House, George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: earec@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Strategic Cropping Land Bill 2011

We write to express our concerns regarding the introduction of the above-mentioned Bill. FNQROC is extremely concerned about the timeframes in which the new Bill has been introduced. Two weeks (25 October 2011 to 4 November 2011) is considered a completely inadequate time frame in which to form a comprehensive response to this complicated and significant piece of new legislation.

At a cursory glance, the new legislation appears complex with far reaching implications for land outside the urban footprint of the FNQ region. In relation to applications, we are concerned the new Bill introduces an almost parallel assessment system to what is already provided under the Sustainable Planning Act. It is unclear why this matter could not be dealt with through amendments to the Sustainable Planning Act and other relevant legislation.

The introduction of a new piece of legislation which creates another assessment process for Strategic Cropping Land is contrary to the State's intent to integrate the planning process and make the planning system more accessible for the community. We consider this new Bill will do the exact opposite and only create further confusion.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact FNQROC's Regional Planning and Sustainability Coordinator, Daniela Gambotto, on 07 4044 3376.

Kind Regards,

Darlene Irvine
Executive Officer

- cc. Minister for Environment, Vicky Darling
- cc. Minister for Paul Lucas, Minister for Local Government
- cc. Ms Desley Boyle MP
- cc. Mr Steve Wettenhall MP
- cc. Mr Jason O'Brien MP
- cc. Mr Curtis Pitt MP
- cc. Mr Andrew Cripps MP