

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [EGC](#)  
**Subject:** Local Government Electoral Amendment Bill  
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Committee Secretary,  
Economics and Governance Committee  
Parliament House,  
George Street,  
Brisbane  
Q 4000

In this submission I wish to support the proposed changes to the Local government legislation in the Local Government Electoral [Implementing Stage 1 of Belcarra] and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. These amendments will help prevent corruption and negligence in complying to requirements as well as removing a temptation by prohibiting developer donations.

There are however other problems in the legislation that lead to poor decision making by Local Governments. S257 permits councillors to delegate decisions to the CEO. There seems inadequate provision to limit this delegation either in terms of monetary, social or environmental value of Development Applications.

An example of such a problem is demonstrated in Mareeba Shire Council where authority to decide on Development Applications has been delegated to the CEO. As a long-term resident of Kuranda which is within Mareeba Shire, I am very concerned by a huge proposed 'tourist' development on rural zoned land which is being considered by the Co-ordinator General, so beyond the control of the Council. However the developer has also submitted separate Development Applications for minor tourist activity and a huge subdivision under the previous discredited planning scheme. Local opinion is that the Mega-Resort under the Co-ordinator General is a smoke-screen for subdivision by subterfuge. Because of the previous delegation to the CEO, Councillors are unable to properly consider and decide this subdivision application which grossly contravenes the current planning scheme.

There need to be strict limits on decisions that are able to be delegated to ensure proper decision making processes which allow the interests of the community to be fully considered.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Andrews

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