

Sub# 4

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**From:** Maureen Cooper [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 November 2012 3:38 PM  
**To:** Health and Community Services Committee  
**Subject:** Amendment to Nature Conservation Act, 1992

Dear Staff,

I am writing in relation to the threat to our biodiversity which will occur if this Bill to amend the Nature Conservation Act, 1992 is allowed to pass. Campbell Newman will use this amendment to push coal and coal seam gas projects despite the value of the area for agriculture, grazing or environmental. Areas such as Bimblebox Nature Refuge will be destroyed to allow Clive Palmer to open cut and underground mine it for coal. Our wild rivers legislation will be thrown in the bin along with the coastal management plan. Campbell Newman also wants to allow the mining companies to tip more toxic water into our river systems when the mines become flooded due to cyclones or monsoon rain. Turtles are already dying from heavy metals released from mining sites. What else do we have to kill before this madness stops. We need stronger environmental laws, not weaker ones. There have been no studies undertaken to show what effect coal dust has on our native fauna yet there are overseas reports showing the terrible health impacts on human health.

Tara is experiencing terrible health impacts due to leaking methane gas from the coal seam gas infrastructure or fractured seams allowing it to come to the surface. Collinsville has an abnormal number of men with Prostate Cancer. The list is endless but it is all hushed up for the almighty dollar. Queensland is on the nose now because of its destruction of ecosystems and soon it will become world renowned for the demise of the Great Barrier Reef as well as the Great Artesian Basin. We need green, sustainable energy – not fossil fuels which are killing our planet.

Regards,cooper  
Maureen

***Biodiversity under threat from all sides***

Biodiversity is in decline. This has been acknowledged by both State and Federal governments but in spite of this, both governments are intent on taking action to place our biodiversity at further risk. The Queensland Government has introduced a legislative Bill to amend the Nature Conservation Act 1992. The Bill is before the relevant Parliamentary Committee. Submissions close on 19 December 2012.