From: <u>Juanita Johnston</u>

To: <u>Health and Community Services Committee</u>

Subject: Proposed Amendments to the Act protecting National Parks

Date: Monday, 9 September 2013 5:28:19 PM

To the Chairman

Health and Community Services:

Dear Sir/Madam

Last weekend, Premier Campbell Newman said that he would protect Queensland's environment. Now is the time for you to do so in his name and in the name of present and future Queenslanders.

The proposed amendments to our laws governing National Parks will undermine our environment at the very centre of its shaky sustainability. The small areas that protect our unique flora and fauna are already hardly enough considering the great rate of loss of species that is now happening. This loss is often brought about by loss of habitat. Queensland already has the lowest percentage of National Parks of any State in Australia.

Your proposed amendments will bring this barely enough situation to zero.

The World is watching while the Great Barrier Ref and our best farmlands are wasted at the behest of the Mining Industry. Now our National Parks are under threat with this legislation which will allow loggers, mining industry, failing graziers and speed riders in. This is a nightmare. This is madness.

Our National Parks need help and support, not annihilation by the thoughtless and greedy. Please don't change our laws protecting National Parks.

Surely you can agreed with Robert Redford who said I think the environment should be put in the category of our national security. Defence of our (natural) resources is just as important as defence abroad. Otherwise what is there to defend?

Yours sincerely

Juanita Johnston

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