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16 SEP 2013

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY
SERVICES COMMITTEE

Health & Community Services Committee

RE: Nature Conservation & other legislation
Amendment Bill (No 2) 2013

I would like to make the following submission:

Firstly, I understand that legislation, policy etc does, from time to time, need amending.

I also broadly support the concept that National Parks are for the public good or benefit.

My understanding of the idea behind a national park is that it is set aside for the future enjoyment of the generations to come, and the preservation of intact ecosystems.

My submission raises some concerns:

How can the proposed Bill protect natural values when an object of the Bill (Act) is to allow for social and/or commercial use?

Having this as an 'Object of the Act' will, I believe, open the gates for appeal after appeal to Planning Courts for any exploitative activity which the Department or Ministers may deny permission for.

Another concern is to abolish the Wollan area World Heritage management area, and international agreement area.

(NCA Amend #2)

PI/2

What is the proposed replacement? and why is ~~it~~
Wilderness not a good idea?

(I must say - I was 'gobsmacked' by that one)

In addition, the Bill does not seem to address some
of the "unintended outcomes" that invariably follow
commercial activity.

Particularly * the additive effect of more than
one activity

- : the "infrastructure" & disturbance
creep that follows an initial development
- : what happens to ground / surface water
contamination risks?

Finally, I am not ^{clear} ~~clear~~ what the community benefit is to remove
public submission / consultation on management plan
development. On the one hand the Bill asserts to
serve all the community and on the other hand, the Bill
put management plan development in the back rooms of
departments and ministers policy advisors.

A tad inconsistent, I would assert.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission

Yours
Harley Vest 11/9/13

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(NCA Amend #2)

p2/2