

# Environmental Protection (Efficiency and Streamlining) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

**Submission No:** 029  
**Submission By:** Cotton Australia  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Health, Environment and Innovation Committee](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Environmental Protection (Efficiency and Streamlining) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025  
**Date:** Wednesday, 17 December 2025 12:59:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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Good afternoon,

I note that technically I have missed the deadline to make a submission to the [Environmental Protection \(Efficiency and Streamlining\) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025](#). I hope the committee will be able to take into consideration this email as a submission.

Cotton Australia is an active member of the Queensland Farmers Federation (QFF), and strongly endorses the submission made by QFF on this Bill.

Cotton Australia would like to emphasise the following:

Cotton Australia support:

- Annual UWIR updates which provide regular insight into groundwater conditions and ensure emerging trends are visible through ongoing monitoring,
- Consolidation of baseline assessment obligations for cumulative management areas enabling the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (QGIA) to prepare comprehensive baseline assessments for all water bores, on & off tenure; and
- A formalised process for landholder-initiated bore assessments that is inclusive of clearer review and appeal rights where landholders believe their bore performance has been impacted by resource activities.

Cotton Australia does not support:

- Any extension of the full UWIR cycle from the current 3 years.

For the purpose of clarity, the area of greatest concern covered by a UWIR, is the area that overlays the Condamine Alluvium, one of Queensland's richest agricultural areas.

While activities by the tenure holder have long been planned, at the time of writing there has been no active CSG extraction east of the Condamine River.

Development across this highly sensitive area is proposed in the medium-term future and extending the UWIR reporting cycle now would be counter-productive. This is the time when complete monitoring, measuring and modelling is required.

Many land holders across this area hold significant concerns, and UWIR reporting will be critical in identify any unforeseen impacts or alternatively, providing positive assurance that CSG extraction is not causing harm to this critical water supply or the land above it.

Cotton Australia is aware of the government's election commitment to provide greater protection to the Condamine Alluvium, and any extension of the UWIR cycle would be viewed by Cotton Australia to be counter to this promise.

Kind regards,



**Michael Murray**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**  
Mobile [REDACTED]  
Unit 3 / 6 Rutledge Street, Toowoomba, Qld, 4350  
[www.cottonaustralia.com.au](http://www.cottonaustralia.com.au)