



Brisbane

Level 36 32 Turbot St  
Brisbane QLD 4000PO Box 12052  
George St QLD 4003p: +61 7 321 0500  
e: [brisbane@appea.com.au](mailto:brisbane@appea.com.au)  
w: [www.appea.com.au](http://www.appea.com.au)

7 June 2017

Committee Secretary  
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: [ipnrc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:ipnrc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Gasfields Commission and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

The Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA) is the peak national body that represents companies engaged in oil and gas exploration and production operations in Australia. APPEA's members account for the vast majority of Australia's oil and gas production and petroleum exploration.

I am writing to advise that APPEA supports the above Bill.

The Commission is a key part of the Queensland Government's approach of supporting coexistence and its work has resulted in many benefits for communities, government, and the onshore gas industry.

We would also like to acknowledge the positive work of the Review of the Gasfields Commission completed prior to the Bill being brought forward. The review was conducted in a balanced manner, a thorough investigation of options was undertaken, and all stakeholder views were considered.

With regard to the broader regulatory framework we are however concerned that there appears to be growing complexity and overlap between the various agencies with roles in land access and onshore gas regulation. In particular, the functions and jurisdiction of the Gasfields Commission, the proposed Land Access Ombudsman, and the CSG Compliance Unit appear to overlap significantly with respect to complaints, regulatory breaches, health and advice to government agencies.

APPEA supports government's role in each of these areas but it is essential that there are clear jurisdictional boundaries between each government agency and the functions of each agency are effectively communicated to the public. A lack of clarity in this regard adds cost to onshore gas production and undermines public confidence in government and the industry as this is in part dependent on a clear, accessible, and responsive regulatory framework.

Canberra +61 6247 0960  
[appea@appea.com.au](mailto:appea@appea.com.au)Darwin +61 4 3391 7317  
[darwin@appea.com.au](mailto:darwin@appea.com.au)Perth +61 8 9426 7200  
[perth@appea.com.au](mailto:perth@appea.com.au)Sydney +61 2 8241 1900  
[sydney@appea.com.au](mailto:sydney@appea.com.au)



APPEA looks forward to working with the Queensland Government and other stakeholders to ensure the Commission's continuing success.

We would welcome the opportunity to speak with the Committee on the Bill.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Paul", is positioned above the typed name.

**Matthew Paul**  
Policy Director - Queensland