



Subject:
Date:

Submission for changes in Sustainable Port Development Bill
Thursday, 25 June 2015 12:12:36 PM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to implore that the mining industry is not again/still prioritised over The Great Barrier Reef and surrounding ecosystems which provide equal, if not more jobs and income than mining. Australia is special to me, and to all Australians, and it's vast beauty deserves strong legal protection. That's why I'm supporting the steps taken in the Sustainable Port Development Bill to:

- Ban sea-dumping of dredge spoil from new port developments.
- Prevent new ports being built on undeveloped parts of the Reef coast.
- Restrict dredging for new port facilities to the four major port areas.

But there are critical clauses missing that provide serious loopholes for developers to exploit.

Again, I urge you to amend the draft laws to close these loopholes and fulfil the promises that Premier Palaszczuk made to Queenslanders before the state election:

- Ban trans-shipping in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- Reduce the impacts of maintenance dredging and dumping.
- Limit dredging and dumping for developments outside ports, like marinas or boat ramps.

This government has made some fair and insightful choices such as stopping the cruise ship terminal development on the Gold Coast - please do what the overwhelming majority of Australians want and say no to mining. Many thanks for reading this and I hope that you protect us.

Yours Sincerely,

Michele Venables

