

Committee Secretary  
Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

The Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council Inc (WBBEC) would like to express its support for the Queensland Government's introduction of the Waste Levy which will:

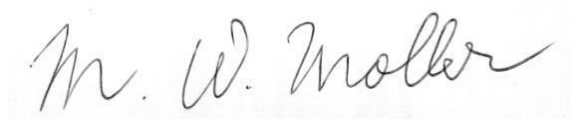
- act as a price signal that encourages waste avoidance and resource recovery behaviours, and discourages disposal to landfill as the first option
- provide a source of funding for programs to assist local government, business and industry to establish better resource recovery practices, improve overall waste management performance and sustain Queensland's natural environment
- provide certainty and security of feedstocks for advanced resource recovery and recycling technologies and processing, and
- facilitate industry investment in resource recovery infrastructure

While WBBEC fully supports these aims, nowhere in the legislation is it prescribed how the funds collected from the levy are to be spent or apportioned. WBBEC is particularly concerned that funding from the levy is allocated to "sustain Queensland's natural environment", however the legislation gives no indication as to what proportion of the levy funds collected will be allocated for this purpose. The legislation needs to be amended to reflect the proportions of levy funds that will be allocated to the various programs to "establish better resource recovery practices, improve overall waste management performance and sustain Queensland's natural environment".

WBBEC anticipates that funds from the levy could be dedicated to programs such as purchasing of habitat to protect existing koala populations in the Wide Bay Burnett region and in other regions in Queensland.

This submission has been endorsed by the WBBEC Executive Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "M. W. Moller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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