

Natural Resources, Agricultural Industry Development and Environment Committee

From: Mike Moller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 July 2020 10:22 AM
To: Natural Resources, Agricultural Industry Development and Environment Committee
Cc: Admin - Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council
Subject: Submission to the inquiry into the Waste Reduction and Recycling (Plastic Items) Amendment Bill 2020

Committee Secretary
Natural Resources, Agricultural Industry Development and Environment Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council Inc (WBBEC) wishes to express its support for the Waste Reduction and Recycling (Plastic Items) Amendment Bill 2020. WBBEC notes that the principal policy objective of the Bill is to amend the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* to ban the supply of single-use plastic items, starting with straws, stirrers, plates and cutlery. These items are predominantly unable to be recovered for recycling through mainstream and widespread collection systems, and can end up contaminating not only recycling streams but also waterways, with harmful effects on aquatic life including marine turtles. WBBEC is pleased that the Bill seeks to achieve a reduction in plastic pollution resulting from single-use plastic by 20 per cent by 2023 and urges the Committee to recommend that the Bill be passed by the Queensland Parliament.

This submission has been endorsed by the WBBEC Executive Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Yours sincerely,

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WBBEC acknowledges the traditional owners of Wide Bay Burnett country. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge that their sovereignty was never ceded.