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The Research Director
State Development
Infrastructure and Industry Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

3 August 2012

RE: Inquiry into the future and continued relevance of Government land tenure across Queensland

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Parliamentary Inquiry into 'the Future and Continued Relevance of Government Land Tenure across Queensland.'

I am a primary producer and 5 generations of my family have already been successfully farming beef (and more recently grain) in this district.

Since the 1800s my family have had land around Cooyar, including the "Trevanna" property where we ran the flagship "Trevanna Poll Hereford Stud" successfully for many decades, at the time making it the oldest Poll Hereford Stud in Australia.

Neighbouring Trevanna (which my brother inherited) we had land which we referred to as "The Pocket" which was held as freehold by my ancestors but which the government resumed as leasehold around the early 1900s. Recently we held it as Special lease 48955 Lot A plan CSH2432 Parish Cooyar.

Over the years our ability to maintain this land as a productive part of our beef enterprise was diminished by red tape and regulations and restrictions which often seemed to be determined by people with little practical understanding of that land and fire risks. Further there seemed to be an increase in feral animals and weed invasions from the national park over the last 10 years or so. Concerns about lack of tenure security also discouraged investment.

In recent years it has been taken as some sort of National Park type tenure as it neighbours the Bunya Mountains National Park.

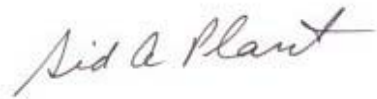
Currently our farm is restricted to freehold land RP58565 Lots 1,2,3,6 & 7 near Rosalie Plains. This land is known as "Samarai" and has been in our family since the 1950s.

The loss of "The Pocket" leasehold land has detrimentally impacted on our beef cattle enterprise as it has reduced our carrying capacity and has also meant that we no-longer have the geographic diversity to spread climatic risk (although it was only about 30km from "Samarai"), significantly it was on the other side of the Great Dividing Range and so it sometimes had slightly different seasonal conditions). Further it was useful to allow us to grow cattle which we could then finish at "Samarai" and to buffer against market changes.

Beyond the impact on our beef enterprise, this land was of enormous sentimental and historical value to us. It has always been a special place for us, not only due to the long and continued family history but appreciated in its own right.

My family and I would be very pleased to discuss any potential to regain tenure of this land in some format.

Kind regards



Mr Sid Plant



Mrs Marilyn Plant



Dr Tanya Plant