

Submission No. 004

15 January 2014

11.1.14

Your reference -
Our reference -
Contact Officer Nick Vass-Bowen
Telephone 07 3810



Ipswich City Council

45 Roderick St
PO Box 191
Ipswich QLD 4305
Australia

Tel (07) 3810 6666
Fax (07) 3810 6731
Email council@ipswich.qld.gov.au
Web www.ipswich.qld.gov.au

State Development, Infrastructure and
Industry Committee

15 January 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Inquiry into the Regional Planning Interests Bill 2013

I refer to the invitation to stakeholders to make a submission to the inquiry by the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee into the regional Planning Interests Bill 2013, and provide the following comments as a submission on behalf of Ipswich City Council.

It is noted that the Bill proposes four areas of regional interest, namely priority agricultural areas, priority living areas, strategic environmental areas and strategic cropping land in which the impacts of resource activities will be managed. The Bill provides a framework for reconciling the competition for land between resource activities and matters of State interest, an approach which is supported in principle.

Notwithstanding, the impacts of resource activities including continuing mining tenures can create significant uncertainty and therefore an impediment to other regionally significant development being brought forward. For example, continuing mining tenures over regional industry and business areas such as the Ebenezer Regional Industrial Area will inhibit development and delivery of the significant number of jobs that would follow. Continuing mining tenures either result in the land not being available for industrial development until after mining has ceased or the tenure is revoked which can take many decades, or upon cessation of mining activities results in land which is not suitable for industrial development or only provides for sub-optimal development yields relative to land that hasn't been mined.

It is therefore requested that consideration be given to introducing priority industry and business areas as an additional area of regional interest in the Bill. This would provide the necessary framework to manage resource activities relative to delivery of regionally significant industrial and business land and the significant jobs growth that such development would bring.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Vass-Bowen".

Nick Vass-Bowen
STRATEGIC PLANNING MANAGER