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11.1.14

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

RE: Regional Planning Interests Bill 2013

With the recent proclamation of Steve Irwin Reserve (SIWR) and the Wenlock River as Queensland's first 'strategic environment area', the Regional Planning Interests Bill 2013 will help protect this ecologically important area from environmentally-destructive activities such as strip and open-cut mining. In this regard, at least, the proposed bill appears a step in the right direction for nature conservation in Queensland.

As a fauna ecologist working to protect Queensland's natural heritage, I look forward to seeing other areas of ecological importance (like SIWR) afforded greater protection under this bill.

Regards,



Dr Edward A. Meyer
Former Lecturer in Conservation Biology and Adjunct at the School of Biological Sciences,
University of Queensland

[Redacted contact information]