

Supplementary submission No. 092

25 February 2014

11.1.14



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

sdiic@parliament.qld.gov.au

23rd Feb 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

Calls for Supplementary Submissions to the Qld Parliamentary Inquiry into the Regional Planning Interests Bill 2013

Following examination of proposed Regional Planning Interests legislation and the issues raised or not raised in the context of earlier submissions and presentations to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee, members of Protect the Bush Alliance (PTBA) have expressed a number of concerns which do not appear to have been comprehensively addressed in the Inquiry process. PTBA is an alliance of nature related organisations interested in and committed to the care of the greater landscape of Queensland on which we all depend.

This organisation wishes to make the following supplementary submission to the Inquiry into the Regional Planning Interests Bill 2013. Our concerns relate to the following:

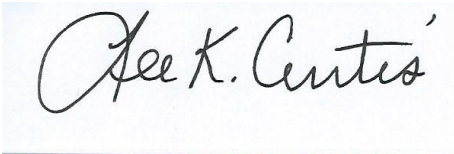
- The Bill should clearly and specifically prohibit mining and large scale industrial activity in ecological sensitive areas, include but not be limited to Strategic Environmental Areas under all future regional plans.
- The Bill failing to nominate and therefor protect the ecological values of areas such as Wild Rivers Preservation and related Floodplain Management Areas and World Heritage landscapes over the insidiously rapid progress of destructive resource developments such as coal and CSG extraction. The Bill should provide certainty that all resource applications within these sensitive areas will be refused.
- The Bill fails to address cumulative effects throughout the environment with particular reference to the part played by rogue gas emissions and carbon release from coal mining to the plight of rising carbon stock globally.
- The Bill permitting multiple small scale mining projects in the Wild River region of Cape York and in Western Queensland. The failure of any one of these developments will leave irreversible damage to the integrity of regional systems to be remediated by Queensland tax-payers.

- The Bill not allowing for public or third party appeals by those most impacted will contribute to a two tier social structure of those benefiting from resource development and those suffering the consequences of its ever presence in rural regions.
- The Bill granting sweeping powers of discretion to the Director-General of the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, such that she or he may be directed or pressured to allow mining applications in Strategic Environmental Areas (SEAs) or other sensitive areas.

In conclusion PTBA feels that the way the bill stands now entirely fails to offer protection for any protected areas or indeed any other of Queensland's most enjoyable landscapes.

We urge you to reconsider and thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee K. Curtis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and 'C'. The signature is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Lee K Curtis, Coordinator