

From: [REDACTED]
To: [State Development Infrastructure and Industry Committee](#)
Subject: Fw: OWN COSTS Rule
Date: Thursday, 11 October 2012 1:19:13 PM

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: SDIIC@parliament.qld.gov.au
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 1:16 PM
Subject: Fw: OWN COSTS Rule

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: SDIIC@parliament.qld.gov.au
Cc: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 1:12 PM
Subject: OWN COSTS Rule

State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee

Dear Sir/Madam,

We strongly object to the Governments proposal to abolish the "OWN COSTS" rule in the Queensland Planning and Environment Court.

We believe this will deny all but the very wealthy people the right to take legitimate action in the Court for fear of having crippling costs awarded against them.

Tip the scales in dispute resolution very much in favour of wealthy Developers and large Councils who can well afford the risks of a loss. Most members of the public could, in no way, afford to take the risk of being beaten by the wealthy Developers who can throw no end of money at the best lawyers.

This Rule has been in place for 20+ years now and has served an important role in public interest and involvement in planning decisions which affect everyone. The scrapping of the rule will end this involvement.

We request strong consideration of these points in your deliberations.

Yours sincerely

Murray and Margaret JOHNSTON

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

11th October 2012