

Sub No. 32.



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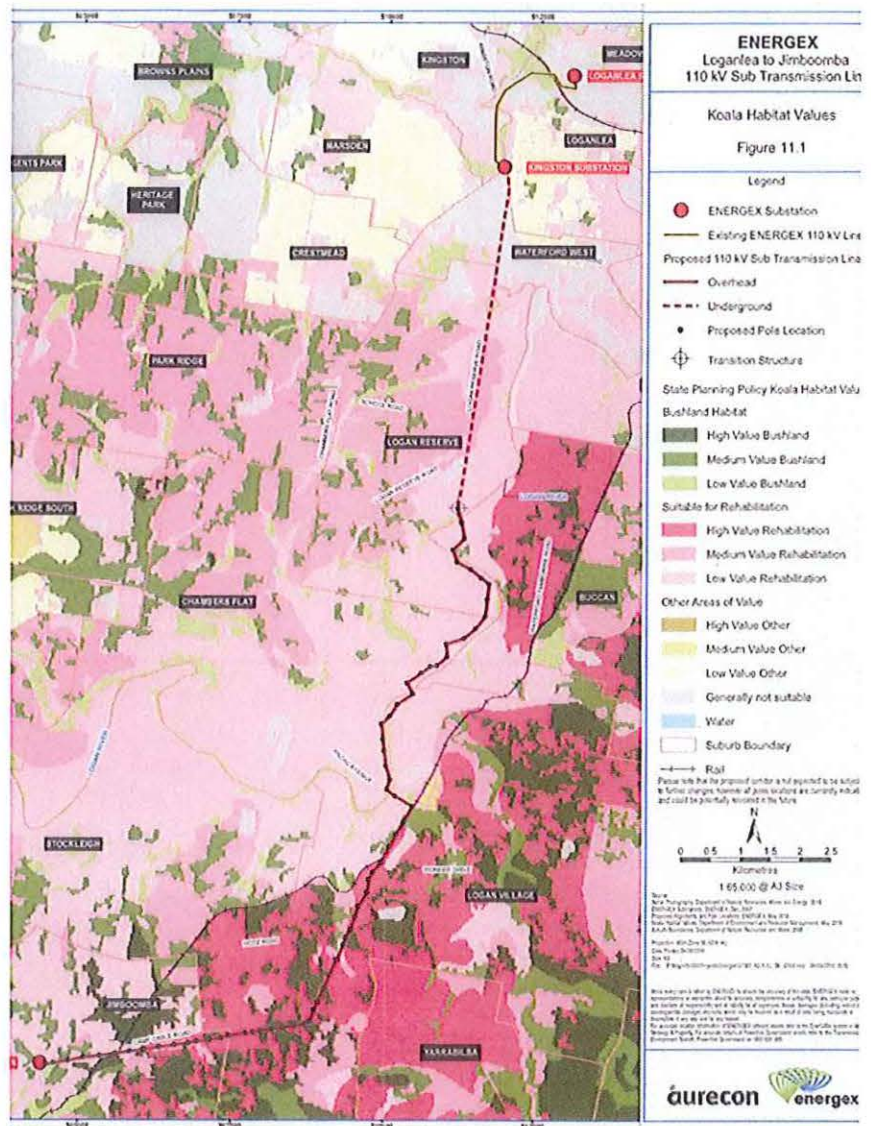
Submission to: State Development Infrastructure & Industry Committee
Re: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT BILL 2013 (QLD)

The government's commitment to growing a four pillar economy based on construction, resources, agriculture and tourism development is recognised. However we are concerned that while the proposed amendments maintain protections for native vegetation, **by omission the amendments exclude maintaining similar protections for high value regrowth vegetation.**

Over the past 4 years our community has had the experience of trying to protect our environment from another high voltage power line through the Logan River Bio-Regional corridor, which in this case actually requires a 40 metre cleared easement along the Logan River with 5 crossings within 6kms then continuing through recognised high value koala habitat [as shown in the Energen FIAR Fig 11.1 map opposite]

Current legislation, in particular SPA (2009) and VMA (1999) has to-date, required assessment of the impacts of the power line and the 40 metre cleared easement on current vegetation and requires provision of offsets for cleared vegetation.

So where there are no alternatives, these offsets can be used to protect and enhance other vegetation, such as riparian vegetation along the Logan River and other key habitat refuges for koalas and other native flora and fauna in our area.



Our concern, is that the proposed Vegetation Management Framework Amendment Bill 2013 (Qld) will remove recognition of re-growth vegetation as valuable habitat and avoid environmental impact assessment and offsets for provision of infrastructure, for re-growth vegetation in our area.

