

## Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

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<b>Submitted by:</b>	Civil Contractors Federation Queensland
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Submission regarding:

Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025.

Civil Contractors Federation Queensland Limited (CCF QLD) is the peak industry body representing the civil construction sector in Queensland. As a trusted advocate, CCF QLD supports civil contractors and associated businesses by providing leadership, resources, and a strong voice on critical issues impacting the industry. With a focus on workforce development, safety, sustainability, and innovation, CCF QLD is committed to driving the growth and success of its members and ensuring the civil construction industry continues to play a vital role in building Queensland's infrastructure and economy.

CCF QLD supports the proposed Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025.

### ***Why Does This Bill Matter to the Civil Construction Industry?***

Sound and efficient planning is essential to the delivery of infrastructure. CCF QLD believes existing processes around the planning of infrastructure projects could benefit from a reduction in red tape, increased efficiency, and for a greater proportion of the planning to be done at the early stages of infrastructure projects.

The task to deliver infrastructure projects in the lead-up to the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic games is no small task. The civil construction industry faces significant challenges that need to be addressed to ensure that these projects are delivered before the Games. CCF QLD believes that a streamlined and efficient planning process is essential in achieving this goal.

### ***Renewable Energy Assessments***

CCF QLD views the proposed amendments to the Planning Act 2016, City of Brisbane Act 2010, Local Government Act 2009 and Planning and Environment Court Act 2016 favourably.

The consultation process surrounding renewable energy projects needs to involve local government, relevant governmental departments and agencies, as well as other key stakeholders. While

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landholders are important stakeholders, it is essential that other stakeholders are not neglected.

Upgrades to surrounding infrastructure, the project's full lifecycle, and impacts on local amenities need to be fully considered during the planning of renewable energy projects. Improving the consistency in how renewable energy projects are assessed will likely result in improved delivery mechanisms, increased efficiency during the operation of the project, and a more seamless end-of-life process in the renewable energy sector.

### ***Social Impact and Community Benefits Amendments***

CCF QLD supports the Bill's intent to 'introduce a community benefit system into the Queensland planning framework'. In particular, CCF QLD supports the requirement for a proponent to conduct a Social Impact Assessment and enter into a Community Benefit Agreement with the local government prior to the lodgement of the development application and for both documents to be assessed simultaneously.

It is the belief of CCF QLD that this approach to planning will result in a more timely and efficient building process that still allows for communities and other relevant stakeholders to engage with the process.

### ***Economic Development Amendments***

CCF QLD believes that the proposed changes to Economic Development Queensland will likely result in ensuring efficiency in operations, including through the adoption of commonly accepted operational measures such as allowing some members of the Economic Development Queensland to send a proxy to meetings of the Board.

### ***Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Amendments***

CCF QLD believes that the Bill will successfully improve the planning process for Games-Related infrastructure, resulting in a timelier delivery of the projects.

CCF QLD supports the holistic approach to infrastructure projects, including the provision of an expedited pathway for the delivery and construction of Games-related transport infrastructure, including removing the requirements for compliance with relevant Acts where appropriate and through the reduction of review rights. CCF QLD further endorses the removal of the requirement

to prepare a Transport and Mobility Strategy and Games Coordination Plan and placing these functions with government departments.

Adopting the Bill will likely result in a streamlined planning processes for infrastructure projects that will benefit Queenslanders well beyond the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It is imperative that work commences on the relevant projects as soon as possible.

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