

**From:** [Mike Moller](#)  
**To:** [State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee](#)  
**Cc:** [Admin - Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council](#)  
**Subject:** Inquiry into the Mineral Resources (Galilee Basin) Amendment Bill 2018, WBBEC submission  
**Date:** Wednesday, 5 December 2018 12:29:25 PM

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Committee Secretary

State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee

Parliament House

George Street

Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Wide Bay Burnett Environment Council Inc (WBBEC) strongly supports the Mineral Resources (Galilee Basin) Amendment Bill 2018, as introduced into the Queensland Parliament on 31 October 2018 by Mr Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar.

WBBEC supports this bill as its objective is to contribute to Australia's commitments to pursue efforts to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels by 2100, by preventing any coal mining in the Galilee Basin. Furthermore, it is totally inconsistent of the Queensland Government to be striving for zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 on the one hand, while approving major fossil fuel mining developments, such as those proposed for the Galilee Basin, on the other.

As well, some environmental assets such as the Doongmabulla Springs are at risk of being degraded and may not recover for several centuries, should coal mining occur in the Galilee Basin. (ref <https://abc.net.au/news/2018-03-21/adani-groundwater-plan-risks-permanent-damage-to-desert-springs/9569184>, ABC, Online 21 March 2018)

Also, it is highly likely that if coal mining in the Galilee Basin goes ahead, by 2030 these mines will have lost their social licence to operate as a result of the very obvious impacts of global warming by then. Early mine closures (Carmichael coal will be too polluting for use in India, which is already facing an air pollution crisis) will likely see greater remediation costs to taxpayer funds incurred than will be recovered through royalties in the few short years before the mines are closed. Closing mines in 2030 that should never have been approved in the first place will cause unnecessary social disruption for workers and local communities, long term impacts on the environment and financial losses for investors.

This submission has been approved by the WBBEC Executive Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely

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Mike Moller

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