

State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee

From: Caron Menashe [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2019 4:27 PM
To: State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee
Subject: Re: Submission on the Mineral Resources (Galilee Basin) Amendment Bill 2018
Categories: Actioned by Amanda, SUBMISSIONS

To whom it may concern

Please find below my submission with my mailing address, email address and daytime telephone number added as requested.

I trust that this time you will accept my submission, as I have fulfilled the requirements you have stipulated in your email below.

Sincerely
Caron Menashe

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing this submission in support of the Mineral Resources (Galilee Basin) Amendment Bill 2018.

The proposed exploitation of Australia's Galilee Basin coal deposits in Central Queensland goes against all the overwhelming global scientific evidence and advice on the necessary urgent actions required to stop irreversible climate change, which will cause irreparable damage to our environment, to our priceless Great Barrier Reef and to indeed to life on this planet.

In light of all this, it is incomprehensible to me as a citizen of Australia and Queensland, how you, the elected representatives entrusted to LOOK AFTER Queensland and Australia, can even contemplate approval of the Adani mine (and others like it), which would be the largest thermal coal mine in the southern hemisphere, and which so clearly and obviously would have significant, dangerous impacts on the health of our precious natural resources and our planet.

How can the Queensland Government claim that it is taking steps to reduce the terrible and unthinkable risks that climate change poses, when at the same time it is refusing to take the necessary steps of stopping fossil fuel extraction which will damage our environment and our Great Barrier Reef, and which will result in even further catastrophic greenhouse gas emissions when that fuel is used.

It is even further incomprehensible that Australian governments insist on clinging to dirty, dangerous and outdated fossil fuels, when we have such plentiful renewable energy resources, when the renewable energy technology is improving in giant leaps every day, and when so many countries are forging ahead into the future by embracing these technologies and turning their backs on fossil fuels.

I also fail to comprehend why the Queensland Government is so irresponsibly putting its head in the sand

regarding the damage that is being done to the Great Barrier Reef and the final nail in its coffin that coal mining in the Galilee Basin will surely be. Knowing that the Reef is such a valuable resource to Queensland and Australia in terms of irreplaceable marine biodiversity, fishing, and a significant tourism industry that produces more jobs than coal mining ever will, how is it possible that the Queensland Government has even for one minute considered allowing Adani and the like?

With the recent terrible coral bleaching events, and ever-increasing natural disasters, it should be abundantly clear to even the most ignorant of individuals, that we need to do everything in our power to meet our commitments to limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees. This is the most significant challenge of our times. If you do not have the moral courage to put aside short terms gains (alleged and highly doubtful), and to pass this Bill, your government will go down in Queensland history as the government that failed to meet this vital challenge, and as the government that caused the demise of the Great Barrier Reef, our marine tourism industry, and our priceless marine biodiversity.

I fully support the Bill's intent to terminate existing coal mining leases and prohibit any new coal mining leases in the Galilee Basin. I also believe that the Bill should go even further by preventing all new thermal coal and gas projects in Queensland. This is clearly one of the most important actions that Queensland and Australia should take in order to reduce the risks of dangerous climate change.

I implore you to reach deep into your conscience for the future of Queensland, Australia and the planet, and to genuinely consider this submission and the many others I am sure you will receive that present a similar perspective on this critical issue.

Sincerely
Ms Caron Menashe

