

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

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

If we are to have any hope of stopping catastrophic climate change and saving our precious Great Barrier Reef, we need to do everything we can as individuals, organisations and government to meet our commitments to limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees.

I wholeheartedly support the Bill's intent to terminate all existing coal mining leases in the Galilee Basin, and prohibit grant of new coal mining leases for land in the Galilee Basin. In addition, I believe it should be amended to prevent all new thermal coal and gas projects throughout Queensland to ensure we are doing all that we can to reduce the risks of dangerous climate change.

I live in the Whitsunday region. I know that my community of Airlie Beach is totally dependent on tourism to the islands and reefs of the Great Barrier Reef. Without healthy reef coral and the ecosystems sustained by these, there will be no tourism and no community. Sixty thousand tourism jobs in North Queensland will be lost if we lose our GBR. Opening up the Galilee Basin to just one thermal coal mine unleashes 8 more mines.

Today my area faces the threat of the re-formed Cyclone Owen. In the last month, we have faced record-breaking heatwaves with devastating bushfires; even burning rainforest! Previously unheard of. We then faced gale force winds and torrential rain from ex-cyclone Owen. Now we face renewed threat from the same cyclone. This is in just one month. The ferocity and frequency of such events is due to global warming with climate change. We must stop the mining and burning of coal if we are to have any chance of slowing climate change.

I am elderly without children but I despair for young people and their future.

Thank you for your consideration of my submission. ■

Rochelle Lynne Rodier

