


**From:**   
**To:** [State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Submission - Mineral Resources (Galilee Basin) Amendment Bill 2018  
**Date:** Monday, 21 January 2019 1:53:42 PM

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Attention Committee Secretary - I request my name and contact details be redacted from any publication of my below submission to the committee on this matter.  
with thanks

State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee  
Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the Mineral Resources (Galilee Basin) Amendment Bill 2018. This Bill is critical for a climate safe future for our great State. And it will help to meet those critical targets Australians have agreed to in committing us to limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees.

As a proud Queenslander who has grown up in north Queensland I am dismayed at the situation now facing the world reknown Great Barrier Reef. As an Australian aware of the impacts of human-created global warming I am dismayed that our State continues to remain so heavily reliant on the extraction and export of dangerously polluting fossil fuels. We are a leader in the development and support of much more positive, earth affirming economic technologies, production and adoption incentives for renewables like solar, wind and pumped hydro power, and private transport alternatives.

The Bill's intent to terminate existing coal mining leases in the Galilee Basin, and prohibit grant of new coal mining leases for land in the Galilee Basin is essential if Queensland is to make a genuine and timely transition to a decarbonised economy. Only a rapidly decarbonised economy will mitigate the most extreme impacts of the current climate emergency. To achieve such a transition in as timely and comprehensive a manner as possible, the Bill should be amended to prevent all new thermal coal and gas projects in Queensland. We owe it to the Reef, we owe it to our tropical rainforests and we owe it to Queensland communities dealing with escalating impacts of severe weather, extreme droughts, extreme cyclones and extreme rain events. Dangerous climate change is costing our State's communities and our metropolitan, rural and remote communities more in terms of insurance losses, infrastructure damage and lost production than what the current State fossil fuel royalty payment scheme provides - presently some \$4.5 billion p.a in fossil fuel royalty income (1) contrasting with some \$11billion p.a. natural disaster costs, projected to be in the order of \$18 billion p.a in the years to 2050 (2) . (sources: 1) Queensland Treasury MYFER 13/12/2018 [https://treasury.qld.gov.au/resources/?fwp\\_tags=mid-year-fiscal-and-economic-review](https://treasury.qld.gov.au/resources/?fwp_tags=mid-year-fiscal-and-economic-review) and 2) Insurance Australia Group Nov 2017 <https://iag.com.au/natural-disaster-costs-reach-39-billion-year-2050>).

Sadly, in 2018 and now into 2019, this economic reality still does not factor in the actual costs to our State in terms of groundwater impacts and flawed environmental offsetting policy. Unique artesian spring systems and black-throated finches must be properly protected. This Bill would assist to protect our invaluable and unique public good assets.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Committee with this submission.

Yours sincerely

