

## SUBMISSION

In providing this submission I refer directly to the key provisions of the legislation which may be amended.

<p>1. Removing High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture from the Vegetation Management Framework</p>
<p><b>1. The removal of High Value Agriculture (HVA) and irrigated HVA (IHVA) affects farmers in regions differently, with those in the north particularly hard hit. Throughout northern Queensland energy and protein become limiting in cattle diets during the dry season and this can cause farmers issues with stock survival and welfare through years of drought. HVA and IHVA permits have provided farmers in northern Queensland with the opportunity to grow fodder and grain for supplementing in the dry season and finishing off stock for market.</b></p> <p><b>The removal of these will limit the capability to drought proof your business for the future and future generations</b></p> <p><b>This will affect food and fibre production for a growing nation, and a growing world population.</b></p>
<p>2. Retaining Self-Assessable Codes</p>
<p><b>Science-based self-assessable codes help farmers carry out the routine vegetation management practices necessary to sustainably produce food and fibre.</b></p> <p><b>The self-assessable codes help farmers ensure trees and grass stay in balance, avoid soil erosion and feed animals in drought. Farmers are not required to obtain permits for work done under the self-assessable codes, but they are required to notify the Queensland Government.</b></p> <p><b>Self-Assessable codes have reduced the cost and time taken to make applications for managing vegetation on our property.</b></p> <p><b>We have used the current self-assessable code on our properties for 10 years and our Land is in much better shape production wise and from and Bio-diversity standpoint.</b></p> <p><b>We have much better rainfall infiltration and less runoff and less erosion.</b></p> <p><b>The fact that there is a huge increase in Carbon Credit Activity in South West Queensland confirms the massive amount of Carbon that is being returned the Soil.</b></p>
<p>3. Including High Value Regrowth as an additional layer of regulation under the Vegetation Management Framework on leasehold, freehold and indigenous land</p>
<p><b>A lot of the mapping carried out by the Department is incorrect. We have received maps showing high value Regrowth on open Flood Plains, areas that we had supposedly pulled and</b></p>

cleared in the middle of water courses and areas that showed pulling being done in the last three years that actually was done in 1992.

The maps that the Government should be looking at are those Black and White Aerial Photos done in the 1960's at 25,000 feet by the Government own Departments. These show the 1000 fold increase in Predominately Mulga Vegetation in this South West Region. This is cold hard factual evidence of the massive increase in Timber growth. Sustainable, targeted, and timely management of the Mulga resource by the People whose ongoing existence depends, are the best environmental managers controlling this process.

4. Increasing Category R regrowth watercourse vegetation to include additional catchments in the Burnett Mary, Eastern Cape York and Fitzroy Great Barrier Reef Catchments.

The addition of high value regrowth layers being added back onto freehold and indigenous land, will be impacted by overnight changes to the regrowth watercourse mapping and the extent of essential habitat mapping. There is currently a strong focus on developing Northern Australia. The Queensland State Government Vegetation Management Framework is preventing these farmers from developing agriculture projects.

How will any of the 'developing' the North get off the ground if it is not even a possibility in the first place. Red tape needs to cut, not increased.

5. That no compensation will be payable to landholders subject to added layers of regulation – high value regrowth, regrowth watercourses and essential habitat during transitional arrangements

If the Government wants to increase High Value regrowth, regrowth on watercourses or essential habitat it should compensate the effected producers for this loss.

6. Increasing compliance measures and penalties under vegetation management laws.

The Bill potentially breaches fundamental legislative principles (FLPs) as outlined in section 4 of the Legislative Standards Act 1992.

Legislation should have sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals and consequently should not adversely affect rights and liberties, or impose obligations, retrospectively.

In addition, penalties have effectively been tripled indicating the Government is deliberately victimising farmers who mistakenly cleared vegetation.

7. Other matters relevant to the Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 that the review committee should consider appropriate and worth some consideration

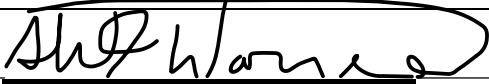

In summary, what is the Government trying to achieve with these changes.

If they are trying remove all the productive farmers and graziers from Western Queensland, they will succeed. They have successfully Feather bedded the Railways out of our areas and down sized all our local Primary Industry Staff to the Major Centres, so none live and work in the smaller centres. If these changes, go through, Western Queensland will be unable to

maintain sustainable Production and will become Ghost Regions. The only industries left will Carbon Credits, and Government Welfare. The Land will be over run with Pests, Vermin and Weeds.

99.9% of Primary Producers have one main aim, to have a sustainable viable enterprise. One that can be passed on to the next generation or sold as their superfund for retirement. There is only one way to achieve this and that is to be the best Land Manager and Steward possible. No room for the Environmental Vandals and Carpet Baggers from 100 years ago. Degraded unproductive land isn't worth anything to the State, the Country, the Producers or the Environment.

My family have been in South West Queensland since the 1860's. We know as much and more than most about it. We love it and respect it, like any other indigenous people. Let us continue to manage it to the best of our ability and its natural ability.

Signed:	
Address:	
Date:	14/03/2018