

From: [REDACTED]
To: [SDNRAIDC](#)
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Subject: Submission From Rowan Douglas
Date: Wednesday, 14 March 2018 10:25:17 PM

State Development , Natural Resources
and Agricultural Industry Development Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Committee Secretary,

I would like to give a submission on how Vegetation Management Amendment Bill will affect our Business and Environment.

We live in an environment that has been created when European settlement came to Australia. Through grazing and thinning practices before has allowed woody vegetation to come back thicker than it ever was. The new bill introduced will put more financial pressure on our business as we will not be able to control our regrowth in the most economical way.

Our Business is set in the heart of Mulga country, 100km south-east of Charleville, and our environment is continually changing depending on Climate outcomes. 20 years ago we did not have a regrowth problem and there was no need to make that landscape any bearer. 10 years ago after exceptional wet years followed by dry years, we have been faced with an enormous amount of new vegetation growth. If we had of cleared 20 years ago when we would have been allowed to, although would have made our landscape to open, then we would still would be able to control our woody weed outbreak in an efficient way.

In the environment we live in, we are not wanting to get rid of woody vegetation as we rely on it for the right balance in our ecosystem. We encourage our regrowth to grow and be kept at a height for foraging by livestock. With careful planning of retained nature strips and continuous regrowth control, we believe this is the best outcome for our environment. If we are not able to manage in an economical way, then it will become unviable for us to manage and we will see this landscape become a monoculture of dominant tree species that will take away the biodiversity that we are trying to keep.

We need to look at the big picture for our environment and community and not just pick out a single year where vegetation was cleared. We believe that current laws are only just sustainable for our business and do more than enough to promote a healthy environment. Lets all look at the best way to encourage a beneficial environment and make sure everyone is educated to promote this.

So please do not change our vegetation laws for the benefit of our habitat and livelihood which so many depend on.

Thank you for reading.

Rowan Douglas

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