



SABSTOP PTY LTD ATF
THE ALLAN WILLIAMS FAMILY TRUST
Trading as "Riverside Pastoral Company"
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20th March, 2018.

Committee Secretary,
State Development,
Natural Resources & Agricultural
Industry Development Committee,
Parliament House,
George Street,
BRISBANE. Q. 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: L1 RP858201; L171 SP237593; L18 SP208194; PH 221638; L4 SP174465;
TL 212095; Lot 3 GV90; L3 GV54; L4 RP852463; L9 RP903903;
Lot101-104 SP278066; L1 SP159745

We advise that our Family settled in the Nebo district in 1860 and our Family have owned some of the above Land since 1908. It is our intention that the land will continue in our Family for many generations to come.

The proposed changes to the Vegetation Management Act will negatively impact on our ability to sustainably manage our land and the environment. This will result in land degradation, increased sediment in water run-off into the Fitzroy River system, negatively impacting the Great Barrier Reef.



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Our concerns are:-

- Restriction on the management of category C (regrowth) vegetation will affect the ability to manage the balance of woody regrowth and grass on the property. We have traditionally managed regrowth by long rotation re-pulling to allow woody regrowth to draw up nutrients below the level of grass roots, provide shade and habitat and increase soil carbon. We do not believe in blade ploughing or chemical control. We always want to know that the regrowth will sustainably regenerate.
- The inability to properly manage category R vegetation will result in shading out of grasses in riparian buffer areas that filter the overland flow of water into the streams. It is a well-known fact that grass is far more effective in removing silt and nutrients from overland flow than trees.
- The shading of grasses by regrowth in general will result in less coverage and protection of the soil from erosion and result in more erosion and soil being washed into streams and ultimately on to the reef.
- The need to apply for a development approval under the Sustainable Planning Act 2016 adds extra cost in the application fee and the need to get professional assistance to prepare such an application and will no doubt result in significant delays to approval with up to 8 weeks allowable to process and decide such applications without frivolous information requests extending the time further.
- The proposed changes removes the right of land holders to manage their land in a timely fashion and be able to react to seasonal events and be responsive to changes in climatic and financial situations.
- Thinning Code – because of the size of the Lots held, restriction on thinning to be 400ha per lot is irrational.

We have been long term custodians of our land and believe we sustainably manage the land accordingly. However, we have been severely impacted by Mining and Gas Companies, who have done irrecoverable damage to the land, which is resulting in severe land degradation and water quality. We make recent reference to a Dragline move through our property, which destroyed vegetation and damaged the embankments of the Isaac River permanently.



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We invite your Department to visit us, so you can see how we sustainably manage our Land.

Yours Faithfully.

A.G.H. Williams

J.N. Williams