From:

To: SDNRAIDC

Subject: Opposition to change the Vegetation Management Act.

**Date:** Thursday, 22 March 2018 11:50:13 AM

I am writing this submission to strongly oppose the changes to the Vegetation Management Act. I am part of a cane farming business near Bundaberg, we have several properties scattered around the districted, a total area of about 1056 hectares of which only 307 hectares is cleared, that is only 29% of our property is cleared. One property was 540 hectares of lease hold of which 142 hectares is cleared. Then the Vegetation Management Laws were introduced. Next the National Parks took some of this property which left us with 325 hectares and we paid the same amount of rent for less hectares. On this property we would like to only clear another 25 hectares. Another property has 2 portions, one is 189 hectares, with 65 hectares cleared, would like to clear another 35 hectares. The other portion of 162 hectares has not a tree cleared off it, we have to pay rates on it even though we cant make a living off it, would like to clear about 25 hectares of it. Our other properties are, 65 ha with 7 ha cleared, 60 ha 16 ha cleared, 153 ha with 36 ha left timbered and a 56 ha portion without a tree cleared off it, would like to clear about 18 ha. We put in an application to a ballot to clear these areas years ago with no success. I think the permit system is the best way for vegetation management, it should have been introduced right from the beginning. We would like to bring our young families in the farm, but to expand we would have to buy already cleared land at very high prices (\$30,000 - \$80,000 a hectare) and that is not viable when we have all this available.

Sincerely, Selwyn Read ph Sent from <u>Mail</u> for Windows 10