

**From:**  
**To:** [SDNRAIDC](#)  
**Subject:** Vegetation Amendment Bill- Submission  
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**Brief History-** Grassmere-GHPL 16100 ha-red box mulga,sandalwood (SE190k from Charleville)- purchased by my Great grandfather in 1926-on return from the battlefields of France-my Grandfather Jack Moore was here till his death in 1957.My father Bruce was here then and had to find close to 100,000Pounds to pay the probate to the Govt on the death of both parents close together.A massive sum in that era! My wife Leanne & I purchased this from them in 1985.My 3 children are 5<sup>th</sup> gen & we are 8 yrs off the 100???? The succession plan is far from clear & 8 yrs seems a long way off given the disrespect shown by sloppy over zealous/popularist moves such as this. I have no fulltime staff!

Dr LYNHAM: I would like to draw the attention of the House specifically to the removal of provisions that allowed for clearing for high-value agriculture and irrigated high-value agriculture. The Newman government introduced this clearing purpose into legislation which led to broadscale clearing of our irreplaceable remnant vegetation. From today, there will be no more of those approvals. However, to give certainty to industry we will honour existing approvals.

I would like to “challenge” that statement of “honouring existing approvals” Here is a **timeline** of my experience

# The last pulling that I did here was in 1991 -\$40000 for 100hrs -approx 7000acres..It was about threequarters rung/regrowth and I had a permit for some green country to allow the whole area to be done & very productive country .Modern regulators would cringe as the form was – “Permit to Destroy Trees”! This would be about \$150000-in todays money!

#Around 1995 I purchased a big loader with a 30ft Stickrake- simply to maintain the work I had done to date. Over the next 20 yrs there were periods of high drama over what we are still faced with -obviously this bill is more of the same. I stayed on top of things pretty well until the last decade or more.

#Around 2007-8 we had huge GABSI bore-pipe schemes going on & ended up with a brilliant result of 100+ kms of pipe to 100+ troughs.BUT lots of costs & work(NO timber maintenance)

#We had an alltime record flood in 2010- then maybe an inch higher in 2012! Pretty much full on drought in between

#The loader motor blew near 4+yrs ago & have only just repaired it

#We all got smashed with the processor instigated shut down of live export from 2013-16 where nothing at all happened(good or even base maintenance)(Fuel \$1.60/l)

#The abt 3 yrs ago the “Cluster “ Feral fencing began in earnest and we were one of the early ones organised out of DERM in Charleville. It is a wonderful thing but Have completed 52kms in my spare time and purchased the remaining material for the 31 more boundary to seal us off. This is a wonderful initiative by the State govt but still has been a massive cost + workload. We have sheep here!

#2016/17 cattle prices finally doubled- I reinvested in fencing material machinery repairs etc & STILL no Timber treatment

# Exactly a year ago we were very dry -facing a grim winter & sold a lot of young cattle then The price today has **dropped At least 20+%** Abares has forecast a **further 15%** ahead??Boom is long gone!!

#About early April last year I went next door to observe modern day pulling. The contractor gave

me a quick demo of how with a vegemap app + google earth he could cut around areas of colour from his D10. He said he couldn't come in unless I got my vege map sorted first

#I applied online but didn't come straight up. In the ensuing phone calls to the Roma office -I got posted a" VEGETATION management report" current as at 19/04/2017. I was quite pleased with the map and was told that I must apply to do any work on the coloured areas. We had a chat that this was the **FIRST time since 1991** that I had contacted & even said that with all the past fuss- I think it looked pretty fair+only doing CatX/white!

(I never dreamt that this wasn't a PMAV...it was hot off the press. I thought that all the "Lock in" talk was for people selling their properties on- OR what happened after a dispute over the mapping)

#I had a dozer breakdown & they came in -3/4/5<sup>th</sup> of August to feed my hungry cows & calves- I bought another old bomb and got 203 hrs out of it till it blew too

# Second entry – desperate situation-29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> of August.....considered them good value & booked them to come and do the 91 regrowth patch plus tidy up other white spots(Cat X)

#We were in a diabolical mess by mid OCT when luckily it rained- sold 6 decks of cows in Sept =paid feed bills for 5 weeks.....

# Stock scattered and finally recouped by November - Crutched and lamb marked(30%) Wife & I branded 520 survivors of the carnage= all DEC

#Heat wave & barely a drop for 3 months & it is on AGAIN! Waiting anxiously to get the pulling done so as to get feed before winter

#FINALLY-Feb 20<sup>th</sup>- they are ready to go & we cut out a block and on the second lap aft abt 5hrs- a little hose blew. The Vege map that he was working off was no different to before and I was blissfully ignorant of the axe abt to fall. There was heaps of time in the next 16 days -inspite of some decent rain to have finished the whole area.....

#I got the news that my VALUATION had gone from\$ 330000(+\$55Kfrom previous yr) to \$720000-unimproved= 118% increase in this last horror year?????????

#I joined Agforce & John Moore is on staff to challenge the valuation. At that meeting -it was put up your hand if you don't have a PMAV.....(not me -I'm ok??)

# The contractor phones me(very nervous) to say the tractors are in an ORANGE zone now & we are all in deep shit???

#### **MORAL of this long story-**

Apart from being the dumbest sod in QLD- I feel that as a leaseholder – the State is my landlord(I pay \$4000pa rent now)- soon to be 10K unless we can get sanity! The state ALSO has a "duty of care" to its's customers! We have a banking Royal Commission and this "Non disclosure" is a serious offence that leaves the loans -null & void.

**On the evening of the Mar 8th bill introduction at 6.24PM on the day it is retrospective + TOO late to apply for a PMAV- lockin - is the very first communication since April last year???****The NEW map which has seized about 15% of my property area** out of the previous white map- I know was compiled as far back as last AUGUST as the 2 trips in here were recorded??????. This was obviously premeditated as a seizure of area from "soft dumb " targets.

Therefore I call on the minister and committee to abandon these underhand actions and show us some respect by letting this bill lapse. Personally -this is a double whammy kick in the guts to someone who has devoted his whole life to building a very productive ( black cattle go to Woolworths/ fat lambs go to TFI/Tamworth) business in this very tough country. I'd like to meet the person that knows more about my block/area and building a sustainable /profitable /easy on on the eye landscape!. I have had 43 yrs straight -hard slog here & my sense of humour is

soured.....I have much more to say and have asked to be able to speak at the Charleville meeting -next week!

Thanks for the opportunity-Regards,

Rob Moore

Ph/Fax