

**SDNRAIDC**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 22 March 2018 10:08 AM  
**To:** SDNRAIDC  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Objection to the Changes to the Vegetation Management Act

Committee Secretary  
State Development, Natural Resources and Agriculture Industry Development Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE Q 4000

**SUBMISSION TO VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018**

Dear Sirs

Please find following our submission to object to the amendments proposed to the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018.

We are graziers who have been property owners since 2013. Our property was purchased with known "Pink" areas that were protected by the current legislation and we have subsequently locked these in under a PMAV. The current proposed changes do not affect our use of the land but we are objecting on behalf of those that are suddenly affected.

The treatment of farmers and graziers as criminals is abhorrent. Agriculture is an essential industry and preventing farmers from managing their properties in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner is uneconomical, as well as unethical. Farmers do not deliberately set out to destroy their money-making asset by degrading the country, rather they look for the best way of protecting their longest term asset. Farmers look for succession planning – including the long term management of the property for future generations to earn a living from the country.

Not all graziers have had the cash flow due to droughts to have maintained their regrowth in the last 15 years. Some may have planned for long term clearing projects which are strategically cleaning up regrowth and your changes to the self-assessable components will impact this. Thinning has always been a task that is managed to keep the pastures regenerating, and the pasture is what actually prevents the degradation of the country – not the trees. The legislation that is currently in place (before your changes) allows for managed self-assessment of this. Control of noxious weeds and feral pigs is a problem in our protected area and we will need to be thinning to be able to maintain the protected area in its current state.

Please consider our submission and our support for the agricultural industry in general. Stop treating farmers as land degrading, money hungry developers, and start respecting their love of the land and their environmental habits as among world class.

Thank you for your consideration.

Les & Kellie Wilkie  
[REDACTED]