

SUBMISSION

In providing this submission I refer directly to the key provisions of the legislation which may be amended.

1. Removing High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture from the Vegetation Management Framework

Increasing population, our country has the potential and the need to increase food and fibre production but this change will stop that and create an imbalance and increase poverty . North Queensland has the natural resources ie soil and water if allowed to develop suitable land supplying employment, export opportunities, food and fibre and a massive injection of funds for a growing nation and growing world population.

2. Retaining Self-Assessable Codes

-We oppose the introduction of a Development Application as follows:

Self-Assessable Codes are based on science and allowed for immediate work to be carried out when the timing is appropriate. Our property is susceptible to major infestations of regrowth and encroachment and requires continual work when affordable or time permits.

The timeframe waiting for approval to install a fenceline, firebreak, dam etc will limit our ability to manage our property effectively.

Paying a fee will be a huge added cost and impossible to budget for.

Herbarium data is capable of demonstrating the thickening and regional ecosystems so shouldn't require our records to prove.

3. Including High Value Regrowth as an additional layer of regulation under the Vegetation Management Framework on leasehold, freehold and indigenous land

Haven't had an oversupply of food and fibre in past and population is increasing so can't afford to decrease productive land.

We bought this beef producing property in 1999 as an investment and foresight to improve the Freehold area and due to lack of funds and time, laws were introduced that devastated the potential to increase our carrying capacity and profitability.

Will reduce ability to employ staff

Common for a property to have timber untreated in last 15 years due to drought, lack of funds or change of ownership so should not be penalised.

4. Increasing Category R regrowth watercourse vegetation to include additional catchments in the Burnett Mary, Eastern Cape York and Fitzroy Great Barrier Reef Catchments.

Installation of dams and water points provide water for native wildlife and more red tape will

stall this important progression.

Grass struggles to grow under trees so soil surface is bare which allows for erosion and sediment run off. Grass roots are close to the surface holding the topsoil in place.

5. That no compensation will be payable to landholders subject to added layers of regulation – high value regrowth, regrowth watercourses and essential habitat during transitional arrangements

The Government wants to regulate the land that we have paid for and worked for so BUY IT.

6. Increasing compliance measures and penalties under vegetation management laws.

Difficult to comply:

Mapping often incorrect and not up to date

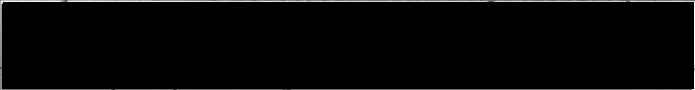
Changing of Codes and definitions become confusing and complex.

Too many Acts.

7. Other matters relevant to the Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 that the review committee should consider appropriate and worth some consideration

Our land is our passion, our income, our future and should be our responsibility as we are the best environmentalists so why would we want to create environmental damage?

The Agricultural Industry requires practical and physical labour, not legislation that changes regularly resulting in non efficiency. The introduction of this Bill will reduce our families profitability, uncertainty of succession planning, inability to confidently expand and decrease number of employees.

Signed:	<i>Jicks</i>
Address:	
Date:	22/3/2018.