From:
 SDNRAIDC

 To:
 SDNRAIDC

 Subject:
 Submission Vegetation Management Laws

 Date:
 Wednesday, 21 March 2018 3:56:59 PM

21 March 2018

State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee Parliament House George Street Brisbane Q 4000

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Proposed Changes to Vegetation Management Act

When we purchased our property, a relatively undeveloped cattle/sheep block in the early 1980s, we had no plans to carry out broadscale vegetation development, at that stage. The plan was to patch up the established infrastructure to a workable standard, with clearing development to be done in the future.

Some vegetation treatment work was done about 20 years ago. Regrowth has been pulled on this portion once since then and is due to be re-treated. This work can only be done when funds are available and weather conditions are favourable. If we are prevented from doing this re-treatment every 15 to 20 years, regardless of the tenure, this area would become a non-productive wasteland. In some cases, this country would be dangerous to impossible to muster.

Why are all farmers and graziers treated with contempt? Dr Lynham has said in a Media Release on 8 March, 2018, "the majority of landholders will continue to do the right thing, as they do now", so it seems elementary by their own admission this draconian and disruptive change forecast by Lynham is completely unnecessary. After we were unsuccessful in the Tree Clearing Ballot which was extremely time-consuming and costly, we attempted to tidy up some paddocks under the Self-Assessed "efficiency Code", but we were told because the country was 'remnant', it would be illegal. The regulations, as they stand, are restrictive enough. PURSUE and PROSECUTE the law-breakers.

400,000ha claimed to be cleared by the Media Release of 8 March – this figure is dubious at best. This certainly wouldn't be remnant, but is most likely re-treated regrowth and that pulled for fodder. This is a blatantly false representation of land clearing area claimed by the Government. My son is a mustering pilot. He flies from the coast to Jericho, from the Canarvons to the Belyando River most weeks. The clearing that he sees is re-growth control and he rarely sees dozers with a chain.

Since the introduction of tree clearing laws, our plans for the development of our property have been curtailed. We see little scope for growth in our business and this has financially affected our family greatly, and with any further negative changes will multiply this effect. We certainly do not need further unfair and restrictive government regulations.

DO NOT CHANGE THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT LAWS!

David Pitt

