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The Committee Secretary  
State Development, Tourism, Innovation and Manufacturing Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

**Forest Wind Farm Development Bill 2020 (Bill): Submission to the State Development, Tourism, Innovation and Manufacturing Committee**

This submission is made by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce in support of Part 8 Division 4 of the Bill, which has the effect of amending the Springfield Structure Plan (**SSP**) to facilitate the orderly planning and development of land in Greater Springfield.

The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce is here to support and facilitate the continued growth of our business community while advocating a spirit of collaboration amongst all members and the community at large.

Greater Springfield is an important example of the excellent results that can be achieved with an integrated planning and infrastructure framework in a critical growth area for Queensland, the Western Corridor. Coordinated provision of infrastructure within a well-defined planning hierarchy that has adapted flexibly to the changing needs of the community has facilitated the outstanding results that are the modern and thriving community of Greater Springfield. A focus on job creation and economic uplift for the region has created benefits for residents, businesses and government in Greater Springfield, and the Bill's provisions will both modernise and protect the framework that has been so successful to date, as well as clarifying undesirable uncertainty created by court decisions in 2017-2018.

The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce supports the Bill for a number of reasons:

- Greater Springfield has an important role to play in the State Government's implementation of Shaping SEQ, the South East Queensland Regional Plan. As part of the thriving Western Corridor development, Greater Springfield will be home to around 143,000 people when development is complete. Development of Greater Springfield is critical to meet the objectives for population growth for this part of the State.
- An efficient and effective planning and infrastructure framework is crucial to sensible, sustainable economic development and the creation of jobs. This will be particularly the case following the easing of lockdown restrictions following the COVID-19 pandemic, with the anticipated economic fall out and job losses. Greater Springfield has already created 20,000 jobs, with many more anticipated as the community expands. The court decisions of 2017 – 2018 potentially jeopardised the efficiency of the framework and hence this anticipated job growth, so the Bill's provisions should have a positive effect in this regard.
- An orderly planning and infrastructure framework is important for the welfare and development of communities (particularly residents). With its focus on open space and timely provision of infrastructure to meet development demand, Greater Springfield has been acknowledged with many urban planning awards over the past 27 years. These awards have been well deserved, but have only been possible due to the integrated nature of the planning and infrastructure framework. The Bill's provisions, which seek to re-establish and update critical links between the plan making process and the provision of infrastructure, will give desirable certainty to residents in Greater Springfield and assist to preserve and enhance amenity and liveability.

- Around \$17 billion has been invested in Greater Springfield since 1997, on the basis of the certainty of the development framework. The provisions of the Bill will largely preserve the existing mechanisms of the SSP for a graduated plan making hierarchy, which has worked very well for a long time, and which has encouraged investment. Preservation of the hierarchy is critical to protection of existing and future investment.

Yours faithfully



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