

9<sup>th</sup> April 2013

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications

PO Box 6100

Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senate Committee,

Please find following our submission in response to the Federal Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2013.

All water sources that are used and those are yet to be utilized should be protected. It is the very presence of underground water that makes our land viable. The Liverpool Plains and surrounding slopes are a national treasure; they are unique and highly productive with the use of widespread conservative farming practises that can produce up to four times the average yield in production without the need to irrigate. We still need underground water to operate our agricultural business for example weed management in no till farming, watering our stock and for domestic use. Destroy our water supply; you will destroy our home and business.

Aquifers have no boundaries. The accumulation effect on multiple gas wells must not be underestimated either.

Therefore we support the government's proposed Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2013 and would like to see it passed as soon as possible.

Your's faithfully,

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Andrew and Helen Strang