

**Inquiry into the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment
(Retaining Federal Approval Powers) Bill 2012**

I would like to support this bill and encourage the federal government to retain oversight of decisions under the EPBC Act. Without this oversight there is a likelihood that negative environmental consequences will occur due to self interested state government approvals. As there is no peer review process of EIS undertaken by consultants hired by state governments there is no guarantee that approvals are undertaken seriously. This has been demonstrated many times, especially in Qld, which was a matter of concern for the Federal Minister recently in regard to mining approvals.

Dr Graeme Armstrong 20/12/12