



23rd April, 2012

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Re: **Submission on the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Project) Bill 2012**

The Regional Groups Collective welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on the Environmental Protection Conservation Amendment (Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Project) Bill 2012). The form of our submission is by way of providing a letter of support for the submission submitted by the Queensland Murray Darling Committee.

The Queensland Regional NRM Groups Collective (the Regional Groups Collective) was formed in 2002 and has as its member base the 14 regional natural resource management bodies in Queensland of which the Queensland Murray Darling Committee (QMDC) is one. The Collective function is to improve the state-wide delivery of regional NRM outcomes in partnership with industry, community and government, and to act as a peak body for natural resource management in Queensland.

The Regional Groups Collective supports QMDC in their provision of leadership on the issue of reducing impacts from coal seam gas and coal mines on the landscapes of Queensland. The Regional Groups Collective have adopted a position similar to QMDC's policy which describes a policy framework to avoid or reduce negative landscape impacts from mining.

The Regional Groups Collective supports all comments and recommendations submitted by QMDC.

In recognition of this submission the Regional Groups Collective wishes to be advised on any finding by the Senate Standing Committee.

Yours sincerely

Andrew J. Drysdale
CEO

QUEENSLAND REGIONAL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GROUPS COLLECTIVE LTD.

Clifford Chambers, Suite 11/120 Russell Street, Toowoomba
PO BOX 4608, TOOWOOMBA EAST QLD 4350
Ph 07 4699 5000 Fax 07 4638 4133 www.rgc.org.au ABN 43 121 237 054