

SYDNEY FOOD FAIRNESS ALLIANCE

Submission re

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2013 [Provisions]

The Sydney Food Fairness Alliance (SFFA) supports the amendments to the EPBC proposed by Tony Windsor, which place a specific focus on protecting water resources from adverse effects of industries such as coal and coal seam gas mining. It is becoming increasingly clear (for example on the ABC 4 Corners program this week) that these impacts are not being adequately examined, in the rush to implement short-sighted strategies to increase mining without regard for potentially irreversible contamination and depletion of water resources.

This is of particular importance in regards to prime agricultural land, which depends on deep aquifers to guarantee the ongoing food production which Australia has to date taken for granted.

Australia is a dry continent and we need to protect the water resources we have. Globally, access to clean water and good agricultural land is likely to be of even more importance in the future, and we should take every precaution not to jeopardise this access for future generations of Australians.

Liz Millen

On behalf of SFFA

The Sydney Food Fairness Alliance (SFFA) is a network of consumers, rural producers, health professionals, community workers and environmentalists. The Sydney Food Fairness Alliance advocates for evidence based policies and reforms to promote food security for all within a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable food system.