Submission for Senate Inquiry into

Native Vegetation Laws, Greenhouse Gas Abatement and Climate Change Measures

By the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

This submission has been prepared by Gayle and Fred De Costa.

As per the inquiry terms of reference this submission deals with the impact of the QLD native vegetation laws on my property.

(a) any diminution of land asset value and productivity as a result of such laws;

We own a small block of approximately 60ha. Of this a big percentage is remnant forest. It has always been part of our property management plan to enhance our existing native forest by thinning and harvesting to allow better forest health and sustainability. It has also been a major part of our plan to establish small plantations on our non-remnant areas. With this in mine very early we lodged a notification of forest practice form and applied for and were granted a lock it in PMAV.

Over the years the government has introduced new additions to our mapping including essential habitat and regrowth. As such extra conditions need to be complied to which in some instances reduce the allowable use of the land.

My major concern is that at some stage the government of the day will decide to renege on the PMAV agreement and as such any plantations or areas left unattended for some time will, in years to come, be considered regrowth.

(b) compensation arrangements to landholders resulting from the imposition of such laws;

While some property owners would require monetary compensation for locked up land, most landholders simply want the right to own their land and manage it using their commonsense without the goal posts constantly shifting in regard to legislation.

(c) the appropriateness of the method of calculation of asset value in the determination of compensation arrangements; and

Nil submission

(d) any other related matter.

What guarantee do landholders have that PMAV's won't be reneged on in the future?

This submission was prepared by: