

SUBMISSION.

THE SENATE.

FINANCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

REFERENCES COMMITTEE.

P.O. BOX 6100 PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

CANBERRA A.C.T. 2000.

NATIVE VEGETATION LAWS GREENHOUSE GAS ABATEMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE MATTERS.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

I AND MY FAMILY BEFORE ME
HAVE OWNED WORKED AND MANAGED SOME PARTS OF OUR
PROPERTY FOR UP TO 140 YEARS. DURING THIS TIME THEY
HAVE SHOWN A PREDILECTION FOR RETAINING A REASONABLE
NUMBER OF TREES IN APPROPRIATE AREAS, AN EXAMPLE
WHICH I HAVE FOLLOWED. BECAUSE OF THIS TRAIT I NOW
HAVE AN ISSUE WITH THE QUEENSLAND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT
ACT. I REITERATE THAT THE POLICY OF PRESERVING SOME
LIGHT TO MEDIUM TREE COVERAGE IS A CONSCIOUS DECISION AND
NOT A HAPHAZARD EVENT.

HOWEVER THE PROPONENTS AND
INSTIGATORS OF QUEENSLANDS VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ACT
ARE NOT CONTENT WITH THIS PROCEDURE, BUT REQUIRE
SOMETHING APPROACHING AN OVERGROWN THICKET. THE
GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING
THIS ACT HAVE COMMANDEERED A SIZEABLE PROPORTION
OF OUR PROPERTY UNDER SEVERAL MANAGEMENT ACT
CLASSIFICATIONS WHILE WE HAVE SUFFERED THIS FATE FOR
BEING RESPONSIBLE ENOUGH TO ENACT THIS AFORESAID
POLICY, THOSE LANDHOLDERS WHO CHOSE TO KEEP THEIR
PROPERTY MORE CLEAR OF TREES ESCAPE SCOT FREE. WHERE
IS THE JUSTICE IN THIS? WHAT MESSAGE IS THE DEPARTMENT
CONCERNED TRYING TO CONVEY? AND IS THERE A MORAL
TO THE STORY?. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW AS I MUST HAVE
MISSED SOMETHING.

AS A RESULT OF CLEARING RESTRICTIONS BEING IMPOSED, THE LAND AFFECTED IS BECOMING LESS PRODUCTIVE AS THE TREE COVER, PARTICULARLY OF UNDERSTORY SPECIES, THICKENS.

I WISH TO MAKE THE OBSERVATION THAT, EVEN AS PRODUCTION DECREASES, WE STILL HAVE AN OBLIGATION, EITHER LEGAL AND/OR AS A RESPONSIBLE LANDHOLDER TO; FOR INSTANCE :-

PAY LOCAL AUTHORITY RATES.

ATTEND TO WEED INVASION INCLUDING DECLARED WEEDS,
PROVIDE BOUNDARY FENCING.

ATTEND TO SAFETY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING FIRE CONTROL AND PROBABLY PUBLIC LIABILITY INS.

THESE COSTS AND OBLIGATIONS WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM NEGLIGIBLE PRODUCTION AND THEREFORE EVEN MORE NEGLIGIBLE INCOME.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS INCLUDE :-
THE DIFFICULTY IN MANAGING STOCK IN THIS OVERGROWN ENVIRONMENT.

THE PERCEPTION BY THE AVERAGE CITIZEN THAT THIS IS AN "ABANDONED FARM" WHICH DOES NOT SIT WELL WITH ME.

YOURS SINCERELY.