

## **SUBMISSION TO INQUIRY INTO NATIVE VEGETATION LAWS, GREENHOUSE GAS ABATEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MEASURES**

**To:** Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

Thanking you for this opportunity to submit to the Senate inquiry.

My property was purchased in 1985, and along with my husband and family, we have had a contented life farming in this area, my husband having lived in close vicinity since birth and owning and working farms in a nearby district. We produce all our crops dryland (no irrigation) and also have cattle as an extra enterprise when the season permits. The crops we grow are mainly wheat and sorghum, with occasional crops of barley, chick peas, mung beans, sunflowers, millet and forage sorghum for cattle feed.

We have several tree lanes going through this property, which also carry an abundance of grass, which, should fire break out, would cause considerable damage, not only to the native vegetation, but would totally destroy any crops we have growing beside them. We also have a greatly reduced yield for about 100 – 150 metres where the trees are growing beside our crops. They are also a haven for feral animals which also cause considerable damage and lower the income potential of our crops. Not to mention the destruction that birds that nest in these tree lanes can cause to our crops.

We originally left the trees knowing there was a cost involved, but knowing we could change their alignment or gain access as we required. We felt they added an appeal to the property that would enhance its value should we ever be selling it.

We now find that its value will be lowered because a buyer is locked into a management practice that does not suit him. We do not wish to sell the property, but even our son will be locked into management practices that may not be efficient in time to come.

The tree lanes are currently of benefit to us to a degree, in that they provide shade and protection for grazing cattle should there be extreme weather conditions. It is also a buffer for windy condition, thereby saving the soil from being blown away into the atmosphere.

This property is one of many which is affected by the proposed coal mine in the Haystack district should it go ahead. Where do they play a part in protecting native vegetation? I believe the landscape would look like a disaster changed forever and not even resemble the countryside as we currently know it - a country that produces food to feed the multitude of people and animals.

Thank you for the opportunity to have my say on this matter.

Yours sincerely,  
Heather Kleidon