

# **ALDERSHOT AND DISTRICT AGAINST MINING**

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## **SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY AMENDMENT ( RETAINING FEDERAL APPROVAL POWERS ( BILL 2012)**

*We wish to provide the following comment regarding the above subject and would confirm that we are residents of Aldershot 4650 Qld.(pop 1042).*

*If the Federal Govt powers to control as per the existing act there will be no real checks and balances on issues relating to the current items in the Federal act.*

*Areas needing protection including the Great Barrier Reef and the Mary River would be left open to decisions being made by DERM under their new name and in our experience relating to the assessment of a proposed open cut coal mine at Colton Qld. they just do not have the skills or knowledge to competently asses these items and tend to rely totally on the information provided by miners consultants.*

*As we saw in relation to the Traviston Dam which was approved by DERM and then rejected by the Federal Govt. The Qld Govt are just not fully staffed or equipped to deal with these matters.*

*The reduction of the Federal Environmental powers of assessment would put many areas of significant importance at risk of haphazard selective decisions which could be motivated by the financial budget needs of the Qld. Govt.*

*Please do not allow this to happen in the interests of our local residents and all Australians.*

**REGARDS ----BRIAN LINFORTH**