

For the attention of the senate inquiry committee:

I believe it is important to retain the federal powers for final decision making under the EPBC act. This division of powers is an important tool which ensures that any conflicts of interests from within a decision making body are minimised. In Queensland, there have been significant development proposals where the state government is a proponent of the application (e.g. the Traveston Crossing Dam).

Maintaining the status quo in this case is crucial to ensuring there is a trust from the public that all proposals are considered given due process, and that there is a balance between economic development, and the social and environmental impacts which can follow.