

**Re: *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2013* [provisions]**

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to offer support to the provisions contained in the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment Bill 2013* (the Bill) that will:

1. Include the potential, possible and likely impacts involving the taking of, interfering with and / or disposal of water resources as obtained or encountered by mining companies in the pursuit of mineral / gas deposits and mineral by-products such as coal seam gas (CSG).
2. Tighten exemptions to the provisions of the EPBC Act.

Furthermore, I am strongly of the opinion that:

1. Exemptions contained in the Bill should be removed;
2. The Bill should strengthen the role of the Independent Expert Scientific Committee in assessing the potential, possible and likely impacts of CSG and coal projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my opinion on these issues.

Kind regards,

Julian Beaman

Thursday 4 April