



The Coordinator General
c/- EIS Project manager, Galilee coal project
Significant Projects Coordination
Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
PO Box 15517
City East Queensland 4022

Dear Sir,

Re: EIS Galilee Coal Project

Our organisation is opposed to approval for this project on the following grounds :-

1. The proposed open cut operation will destroy crucial habitat - 4500 ha of remnant vegetation, 4000 of which has been preserved in the Bimblebox Nature Refuge in a region otherwise extensively cleared for grazing
2. The proposed underground mining could result in substantial subsidence
3. The Bimblebox Nature Refuge will be unable to fulfil its perpetual conservation agreement with the Queensland Government,
4. Approval will put the Queensland Government in breach of its commitments under the perpetual conservation agreement and waste the \$300,000 Government funds spent to establish the refuge along with private funds and scientific research projects on the Refuge.
5. Among others, it renders likely the local extinction of the endangered black-throated finch, the vulnerable squatter pigeon and the near threatened black-chinned honeyeater.
6. The 468km rail line will contribute to accelerated degrading of an already fragmented landscape, and the disruption of many functioning properties en route.
7. The projected 1.4 billion tonnes of raw thermal coal to be mined will contribute to the production of greenhouse gases causing accelerated global warming and the further marginalisation of the region's food producing potential.
8. Offsets are unlikely to exist, and in any case would not prevent net loss of biodiversity in the region or the State, given that government documents clearly indicate that our biodiversity and associated ecosystem services are in decline and under threat.
9. Cumulative impacts do not address the other 'Developments' proposed for the Basin, nor do they consider the likely long-term outcomes for the community and its environment when the proposed mining ceases.

We request that approval not be granted to this proposal, and that there be a moratorium on Authorities to Prospect in light of the environmental, agricultural and human damage caused by existing and proposed projects which is not counted as a cost to the State or to the companies who enrich their shareholders at the expense of our children's future.

Yours faithfully,

E Ann Hobson, Secretary

cc Federal & State Ministers for Environment, Paola Cassoni