

Thursday 2 November 2017

Dear Rick,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the Queensland Greens in broad support of Lock the Gate's election priorities.

We support the following points:

Protecting people's health by:

1. Giving landholders and Traditional Owners the right to say 'no' to mining and gas
2. Placing a 10km buffer around homes to protect them from coal mines and major gas infrastructure, and a 2km buffer between homes and gas wells
3. Restoring full community objection rights to unconventional gasfields

Protect our food and water by:

1. A legislative ban on any unconventional gas or open cut mines or expansions on mapped Strategic Cropping Land
2. Legislative no-go zones for unconventional gasfields in the Fraser Coast/Wide Bay Burnett and Channel Country
3. Placing strict limits on the volume of water that can be extracted from the Great Artesian Basin for mining and unconventional gas.

Additionally, the Queensland Greens support a ban on all unconventional gas mining, a ban on all new coal mines or expansions of existing mines.

Ensure the mining industry fulfils its rehabilitation obligations:

1. Prohibiting final voids, and requiring all mined land to be returned to an approximate original contour
2. Mandating a progressive annual rehabilitation ratio target of 1:1 (disturbed area to rehabilitated area)
3. Fixing the Queensland financial assurance calculator so that it fully reflects the cost of rehabilitation, and;
4. Charging the mining industry a surcharge of 50c per tonne of shipped product to raise the required funds to seriously address Queensland's abandoned mines legacy.

Ensure a sustainable economy by:

1. Requiring that mining and gas companies must hold comprehensive

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environmental insurance to cover all potential pollution and natural resource damage from their activities.

2. Increasing royalties up to 15% and reinvesting these funds into regional Queensland
3. Developing a state-wide mine rehabilitation jobs plan for Queensland

Additionally, the Queensland Greens support a tax of 18.75% on fossil fuel projects in Queensland with a view to phasing out all coal and unconventional gas projects within 5 years. You can see the Greens' federal mine rehabilitation jobs policy here: greens.org.au/mining-rehab

Stop the Acland Stage 3 coal expansion by:

1. Rejecting the environmental authority and mining leases outright as recommended by the Queensland Land Court.
2. Put in place permanent protections for the Darling Downs so that a new application is not lodged for coal mining over this high quality agricultural land.
3. The failure to include transitional provisions in the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act and subsequent amendments to it, has meant that landholders and communities have lost the right to object to most Environmental Authorities for CSG
4. Invest in the Darling Downs as a centre of excellence for value-added agriculture and clean energy, and provide restructuring support and re-training for any affected mine workers.

Ensure that the Adani Carmichael coal mine does not benefit from public funds and does not incur a major public liability by:

1. Vetoing the proposed \$900M loan from the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
2. Requiring Adani to post an upfront cash bond reflecting the full amount of financial assurance (based on an independent calculation)
3. Requiring the Adani Carmichael mine to meet a 1:1 progressive rehabilitation ratio and
4. Prohibiting any final voids as part of the project's final landform

The Queensland Greens completely oppose the Adani Carmichael coal mine and are the only party in this election that are fighting against the mine.

Warm Regards,



Michael Berkman
Greens Candidate for Maiwar