

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

The committee recommends the Queensland government make it a priority to review legislation that may be inconsistent with Australia's obligations under a range of international instruments, with a view to ensuring Queensland legislation is amended to ensure consistency with Australia's international obligations.

Recommendation 2

The committee recommends the Queensland government recognise all decisions that have been delivered by the Federal Court of Australia in the recognition of Indigenous land rights in Queensland.

Recommendation 3

The committee recommends the Queensland government consider replacing the Crime and Corruption Commission with an organisation modelled on the Independent Commission Against Corruption in New South Wales.

Recommendation 4

The committee recommends once the Crime and Corruption Commission is replaced that the Queensland Government re-open, review and reconsider all issues, matters and cases presented to the Crime and Corruption Commission inclusive of all decisions.

Recommendation 5

The committee recommends the Queensland government make a commitment to restoring the relationship between government and the Queensland people, through adequate consultation, transparent decision making and accountability for outcomes.

Recommendation 6

The committee recommends the Queensland Government review decisions made by the Newman Government as well as decisions pending, in relation to the approval of mining leases and other projects called in by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, where environmental and planning laws and decisions reached by Local Government, have been ignored and disregarded and/or where potential conflicts of interest may have occurred and/or where political donations to the Liberal National Party were involved in some way.

Recommendation 7

The committee recommends the Queensland Government review all alleged conflicts of interest raised during the Inquiry.

Recommendation 8

The committee recommends the Queensland Government review any controversial asset sale during the Newman Government's term.

Recommendation 9

The committee recommends the Queensland Government conduct a thorough review of the Queensland vocational education and training programs and reinstate courses cut under the Newman Government. In particular, the review should consider course cost increases, infrastructure, facilities, staffing, course accessibility and other matters.

Recommendation 10

The committee recommends that the Queensland government refers to the Crime and Corruption Commission and/or to the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Commission the issue of the extension of the sand mining lease on Stradbroke Island and any issues relating to political donations and election spending by Sibelco.

Recommendation 11

The committee recommends that the Queensland government ensure all mining and other major development activities are consistent with Australia's environment and social obligations under international environmental instruments that Australia is a signatory to.

Recommendation 12

The committee recommends that the federal Minister for the Environment does not delegate his powers under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Recommendation 13

The committee recommends that the Federal Minister for the Environment declare a moratorium on any new approvals of Coal Seam Gas until an investigation is completed and reports back to the Senate. The report should address the effects of Coal Seam Gas mining activities in the Tara and Chinchilla areas on the health of local people, animals and crops, groundwater and on the quality of soil, water and air, and also investigate the disposal of effluent containing human faeces around mining camps, local roads and agricultural land used for growing crops for human consumption and the degradation of water reserves in these areas.

Recommendation 14

The committee recommends the Queensland government undertake an immediate review of the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and its resource capabilities including staffing levels, expertise, arms-length requirements and conflicts of interest to determine and establish appropriate operating requirements for the delivery of quality outcomes for stakeholders. Further, the committee recommends a thorough review of the department to improve systems, processes, procedures, compliance, and escalation of issues, transparency and reporting. Ideally, an independent body should be established to manage escalated issues.

Recommendation 15

The committee recommends that the Queensland Government complete a review of the Gasfields Commission Queensland including roles, responsibilities, conflicts of interest and independence.

Recommendation 16

The committee recommends the Queensland government review all legislation implemented by the Newman Government to determine its appropriateness and compatibility with social justice/natural justice requirements and other land ownership rights. Further the committee recommends the review of mechanisms/instruments established by the Newman Government which impose unjust and unfair limitations or requirements on land owners, particularly in relation to land use/access issues.

Recommendation 17

The committee recommends that a royal commission be established to investigate the human impact of Coal Seam Gas mining.

Recommendation 18

The committee recommends that a moratorium be called and that no further Coal Seam Gas mining approvals be given until a full investigation by the Federal Minister for the Environment has been completed and reported back to the Senate on; the human health impacts, animal deaths, crop contamination, drinking water and air quality, plus degradation of the water supply in and around the Tara and Chinchilla area.

Recommendation 19

The committee recommends that a Resources Ombudsman be established to provide Australians with an independent advocacy body.

Recommendation 20

The committee recommends that fracking be banned in Queensland.