

Robert G. Quirk
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30 Duranbah Road
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20 January 2017

Director Environment and Building Policy
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39,
Sydney NSW 2001

via online submission

Draft SEPP (Coastal Management) 2016

I refer to the draft SEPP (Coastal Management) 2016 (**draft SEPP**) and the online submission made by Tweed River Canegrowers (**TRC submission**).

Reliance on TRC submission

I have read a draft of that submission and to avoid repeating it verbatim in this submission I rely on the facts, grounds and recommendations in the TRC submission.

Additional matters

My farm is located on Tweed Valley Way at Stotts Creek, and it is more particularly described as Lot 110 DP1049253.

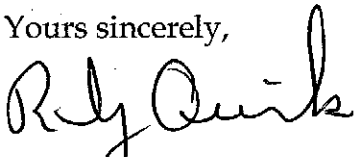
My farm was the first in the world to receive the Bonsucro sustainability standard certification. I consider that the most sustainable practices for the production of sugar cane are employed on my farm, including for addressing acid sulphate soils, and I am constantly looking to develop more efficient and sustainable practices.

In undertaking farming on the farm I have received a Churchill Fellowship 2000, McKell medal 2006 (awarded by the natural resource management ministerial council of Australia) and Carbon Farmer of the Year award 2014, amongst many other awards, in recognition of the sustainable techniques developed and used on my farm.

Whilst the intent of the draft SEPP is commendable, it falls down in its execution by placing a potentially enormous burden on agricultural enterprises in the event that development is undertaken in the course of those businesses. As stated in the TRC submission, the draft SEPP overrides and appears to ignore, the long-standing (approximately 15 years) appropriate regulation and the detailed focus of the drainage management planning in the drainage management plans that has served the coastal environment and community well since its implementation. In short, if the additional overheads reflected in the draft SEPP were required on top of the detailed work the industry and other groups have done over the years, development would likely not occur and potentially lead to the industry's stagnation or decline.

I would welcome the opportunity to further participate in the development of this critical policy framework.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. G. Quirk', with a small dot at the end.

Robert G. Quirk