



The Hon Scott Stewart MP
Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals

Ref CTS 03064/24

23 February 2024

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Report No. 44 (57th Parliament) of the Transport and Resources Committee titled 'Land Valuation Amendment Bill 2023' (the Bill) which was tabled on 24 November 2023.

I express my appreciation to the Committee for its consideration of the Bill and in accordance with section 107 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* and as the responsible Minister, I provide this letter as an interim response to the Report.

The Committee's report has eight recommendations:

1. That the Bill be passed.
2. The Minister reconsiders clause 5 of the Bill with a view to ensure that statutory guidelines bind only the Valuer-General in how a type or class of property valuation is conducted. Nothing in a statutory guideline should limit objection or appeal rights of individual landholders or fetter the discretion of the Land Court of Queensland.
3. The Minister reconsiders Clause 6(a)(3) of the Bill with a view to ensure that before making any guideline regarding statutory valuation of land, the Valuer-General must consult with, and must have regard to the views of, any person the Minister considers appropriate.
4. The Minister should encourage the department to undertake sufficient, substantive consultation when implementing this Bill, during which the rationale for the changes proposed in Clause 27 of the Bill should be communicated.
5. The Minister should consider amending the Statement of Compatibility to address any potential breach of the human rights of agents and representatives by clauses 44, 47 and 51 of the Bill which apply requirements for disclosure by a party's agent or representative. If this breach is not reasonable or justified, the Minister should consider amending those clauses to remove the requirements for disclosure by agents and representatives.
6. The Minister should consider amending the Statement of Compatibility to address any potential breach of the human rights of parties by clauses 44 and 47 of the Bill which propose to allow the chairperson to decide not to hold an objection conference or to end an objection conference.

7. The Minister reconsiders clause 49 of the Bill to provide that the chairperson's written report must be kept confidential or can only be accessed by certain parties. Consideration should also be given to providing that any report made under this clause is without prejudice.
8. The Minister reconsiders clause 57 to provide that, for decisions which may be subject to external review by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal, an applicant is entitled to legal representation as a right.

Since the tabling of the Committee's report, the Department of Resources (Resources) has conducted substantive consultation with a range of interested stakeholders to meet the expectations of the Committee for further discussions to be undertaken about the policy rationale for the changes proposed under the Bill.

Stakeholders engaged include, the Queensland Law Society, Australian Property Institute, Property Council of Australia, Shopping Centre Council of Australia, AgForce Queensland, Queensland Farmers Federation, Local Government Association of Queensland, Urban Development Institute of Australia, and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. In addition, the Valuer-General, Ms Laura Dietrich, has commenced simultaneous consultation with these stakeholders for the development of a statutory guideline (that would be made under a new head of power established under clause 5 of the Bill).

I am advised that these discussions, which are ongoing, have been positive, and I am confident that we will be able to find a way forward to address issues raised in relation to the Bill.

I advise that the government will ensure a final response is tabled by no later than 29 March 2024.

This interim response is due to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly by 23 February 2024. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if you could arrange tabling of this letter under Standing Order 31 at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely



Scott Stewart MP
Minister for Resources
and Critical Minerals