

## Submission - Extreme Weather Inquiry

I live in Far North QLD, in Cairns and i must we have had a most unusual prolonged dry season and very late starting wet season.. which is still yet to really kick-in.

This along with the many other extreme weather patterns across Australia and the whole world to me clearly show even more powerfully the increasing onset of Climate Change.

It's time now for the Australian Government to buckle down and make major changes to protect our natural environment, ecology and biodiversity of Australia and its surrounding coastline.

We have to stop the massive giveaway of lands to the mining companies and protect the lands and waterways for their ecosystems, and role they play in protecting the Australian climate.

It's also important to start 2013 by paying tribute to the incredibly brave emergency services workers who have spent so much of this summer keeping us, our homes and our livelihoods safe through yet another devastating fire season. Our hearts go out to those who have lost so much, but we can be thankful that so much has been saved.

These fires are a reminder of the awesome power of nature and of the simple fact that our entire human society and economy is but one part of this planetary environment that is our home.

The fires, and the record-breaking heatwave we've sweltered through, are also a clear picture of what is to come if we don't stand up to the coal lobbyists and truly tackle global warming.

If the Tasmanian fires have taught us anything, it is that being prepared for extreme weather is vital for saving lives and homes.

Please make 2013 the year that the Australian Government stands up for Australia's climate, nature, wild lands & seas and our people and cultures by making it the year Australia puts the environment FIRST !!

Kind regards  
Sean Corrigan