

Subject: Submission - EPBC Act (Retaining Federal Approval Powers)
Date: Thursday, 17 January 2013 11:46:30 PM

I strongly support Senator Walter's Bill to prevent the Federal Government being able to delegate its EPBC Act approval powers to the States. If the Bill were unsuccessful and the Government proposal proceed it would undermine the very purpose of this Federal Act established by previous Parliaments on behalf of the Australian people which creates an independent level of review of major Mining and other development projects. This Act has successfully ensured that checks and balances are in place to reduce the impact of the mining industry on our land, water and health while balancing economic interests. If the government's proposal proceeds it will be open slather to any State Government to override national environmental policies in the interests of state budgets and further erode the severely limited of Australian citizens to influence decisions about developments that might adversely affect their health, their clean air and water, their fresh food and the fragile biodiversity of this continent, upon which we depend for our lives.

Caroline Reid