

**Fax 61 2 6277 5818**

**17 th. Jan 2013**

**Senate Inquiry**

**Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment [ Retaining  
Federal Approval Powers] Bill 2012**

It is essential that the Federal Government maintains the Power that it presently has under the EPBC Act.

While some states have a Senate that can review State Government Legislation, Queensland does not.

Queensland under the State development Act can promote a development by means of a quasi state owned " Private Company" then have it assessed by the Government having been approved by the State appointed Coordinator General.

Without the Federal Government's power of veto under the EPBC Act development is rubber stamped by the State government, be it Labor or Conservative .

In 2009 Peter Garrett the Minister at that time rejected the Proposed Traveston Crossing Dam under the EPBC Act.

In doing so he saved Queensland Tax payers a fortune, and saved the Mary River from a mid stream strangulation, that would have caused untold environmental damage.

Caesar must not judge Caesar. We must maintain a system of checks and balances.

Victor Hill

Member of Save the Mary River Coordinating Committee.