

18 September 2015



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.

Select Committee Clerk
Local Government and Environment Committee
Parliament House
Wellington

Sent by email to:
select.committees@parliament.govt.nz

Dear Select Committee Clerk

Re: Environment Protection Authority (Protection of Environment) Amendment Bill

On behalf of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc (EIANZ), I am pleased to enclose a copy of a submission relating to the proposed amendment of the *Environmental Protection Authority Act*. Thank you for agreeing to accept this late submission. As an organisation or practicing professionals it is not always possible to meet deadlines for activities outside our fields of direct responsibility and this is one occasion where we fell short.

The EIANZ strongly supports the addition of a third objective for the Environment Protection Authority which makes it clear that the Authority's role includes the promotion, protection and enhancement of the environment. We believe the addition of this purpose will serve to reduce the ambiguity about the role of the Authority as well as improve the alignment of the EPA Act with New Zealand's other environmental legislation.

The EIANZ is the leading professional body for environmental practitioners in Australia and New Zealand, promoting independent and interdisciplinary discourse on good practice environmental management, and holding its members accountable to the EIANZ *Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct*. We believe the proposed amendment will help to support good environmental practice and improve decision-making on environmental matters.

We do not wish to appear before the Committee to give evidence in support of our submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Womersley".

Jon Womersley FEIANZ, CEnvP
Board Chair and
President

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