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**From:** [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 23 August 2012 8:23 AM  
**To:** EHPP Landscapes & Ecosystems Section Mailbox  
**Subject:** Take action today to protect our native landscapes and wildlife

Dear Sir/Madam

Dear Premier O'Farrell

Last weekend I attended a Koala forum and was very distressed to learn about the plight of the koalas. I learned that that there has been a serious increase in the number of sick and injured koalas that wires have been receiving. This is a direct result of the habitat fragmentation from logging practices. The destruction of their habitat has caused such stress to these beautiful and iconic animals that many of them are suffering the effect of disease and rendering them sterile. In addition to this they are becoming displaced, open to attacks from dogs, hit by cars and logging machinery.

I am appalled to think that the Shooters and Fishers Party hold such sway that you would even consider repealing such an important act - Native Vegetation Act 2003 ! If anything our native vegetation needs to have stronger protection. This act ensures that biodiversity is maintained and our wildlife protected. Our natural heritage must not be degraded and used as a pawn for political gain. My grandchildren have the right to see native animals in their habitat.

Thank you  
Nakia Lamir

Our state's native vegetation provides essential environmental, social and economic benefits, including protecting water quality, maintaining soil health and providing wildlife habitat for threatened species.

I am strongly opposed to the government's proposal to allow clearing, thinning and burning of large areas of native vegetation without assessment and approval by a Catchment Management Authority. These activities will have a serious impact on the environment, and should not be classified as 'routine agricultural management activities'.

The changes proposed in the draft *Native Vegetation Regulation* will place large areas of native vegetation at risk. The proposal to allow clearing of invasive native species and thinning of native vegetation without advice and approval from a CMA has the potential to result in the loss of hundreds of thousands of hectares of native vegetation. I am also opposed to proposals to weaken offset rules and facilitate clearing of paddock trees and small patches in cultivation.

I am deeply alarmed by news that the Shooters and Fishers Party intend to introduce legislation to repeal the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*. We cannot afford to return to the era of broadscale land clearing, when millions of hectares of forests and woodlands were destroyed. The government must uphold strong native vegetation laws so that we don't return to the unsustainable practices of the past.

We need stronger laws to protect for our wildlife and native vegetation, not weaker ones. I urge you to maintain the environmental protections in our native vegetation regulations, and to vigorously oppose any move to repeal the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*.