



QUEENSLAND
FARMERS'
FEDERATION

25 September 2026

The Hon Dale Last MP
Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and
Regional and Rural Development
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BRISBANE QLD 4000

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Dear Minister

RE: Land and Other Legislation Amendments Bill (2026)

Introduction

The Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the *Land and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026* (LOLA Bill) as set out in the Department's Information Paper of September 2026.

QFF supports the general direction of the LOLA Bill. The proposed amendments are largely administrative in nature and seek to reduce duplication, streamline land tenure administration and enable more timely decision-making. QFF considers these are appropriate objectives and welcomes a number of the proposed reforms.

The primary focus must be in ensuring that the transition of certain road reserve functions to local governments is implemented consistently and provides sufficient certainty for landholders. In particular, we encourage the Department to continue working closely with local governments through the transition and to consider mechanisms for benchmarking road reserve fees across councils.

QFF's key comments are summarised as follows:

- QFF supports the transfer of local road closure, permit and consent functions to local governments (items 1-3) but we note the importance of a coordinated transition and a consistent and predictable approach to fees and administration across local government areas.
- QFF asks the Department to consider how fees and responsibilities will operate where agricultural infrastructure, such as a pipeline, crosses road reserves administered by more than one local government.
- QFF supports the removal of duplicative lease renewal and conversion criteria (items 11-13), provided the changes do not create unnecessary uncertainty or additional obligations for lessees.

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- QFF supports the single lease extension mechanism (item 14) and encourages the Department to resolve the remaining implementation matters with Titles Queensland before commencement.
- QFF supports the modernisation of the soil conservation plan framework (items 31-35), including more flexible arrangements for revoking plans where broad consultation would be unreasonable, while retaining appropriate notification and consultation for directly affected productive landholders.

Our response follows.

Local roads, permits and consents (items 1-3)

QFF notes the proposed removal of road licences under section 103, the requirement for relevant road manager consent before a permanent road closure application can be lodged, and the transition of permits to occupy roads to local government frameworks.

QFF understands and supports the policy intent of recognising local governments as the road managers for local road networks and enabling associated revenue to be retained for local road purposes.

Many primary producers rely on road reserves for grazing, stock movement and agricultural infrastructure, including irrigation and water pipelines. QFF therefore considers the practical implementation of these changes to be particularly important for agricultural businesses.

QFF supports the transition of these functions to local government but asks that the Department continue working with councils to ensure the transition is coordinated and does not result in materially different administrative requirements or costs for landholders depending on where their property is located.

In particular, QFF encourages the Department to:

- work with local governments to establish a consistent and predictable approach to the administration of road reserve permits and associated fees;
- benchmark the schedule of road reserve fees across local government areas to identify and address material inconsistencies; and
- provide clear guidance to landholders on the transition from existing State arrangements to local government arrangements, including any changes to application processes, fees and responsibilities.

A further issue requiring clarification is the treatment of infrastructure that crosses road reserves within more than one local government area. Agricultural infrastructure, such as pipelines, may extend across multiple road reserves and council boundaries. QFF seeks clarity on how fees, permits and responsibilities will be allocated in these circumstances, including whether separate

fees will apply in each local government area and how costs will be shared or apportioned where a single piece of infrastructure crosses multiple council areas.

QFF considers these matters should be addressed as part of the transition to ensure the new arrangements remain practical and proportionate for agricultural businesses.

QFF supports the proposed transitional arrangements for existing road licences and encourages the Department to clearly communicate these arrangements to affected landholders, including the pathway that will apply when existing arrangements expire or where a new permit is required.

[Lease renewal and conversion criteria \(items 11-14\)](#)

QFF supports the removal of genuinely duplicative or redundant requirements from the lease renewal and conversion framework.

QFF understands that a number of the criteria proposed for removal from sections 159 and 167, including matters concerning environmental and nature conservation values, are addressed through other statutory frameworks, including the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and *Forestry Act 1959*.

QFF supports this approach where it genuinely reduces duplication without creating additional uncertainty or administrative requirements for lessees. It is important that the removal of criteria from the *Land Act 1994* does not result in matters being reassessed through another process in a way that increases the regulatory burden on leaseholders.

QFF therefore encourages the Department to provide clear guidance identifying where matters removed from the *Land Act 1994* will continue to be considered under other legislation, and what this means for lessees in practice.

QFF also welcomes the amendment allowing a term lease to be extended by a single application while a renewal, conversion or related dealing is being resolved (item 14). This is a practical reform that should reduce unnecessary administrative burden and provide greater certainty for leaseholders where applications remain under consideration.

QFF notes the Department's advice regarding the remaining implementation matters with Titles Queensland, including the registration of an extension without a fixed expiry date. QFF encourages the Department to resolve these matters before commencement so the intended benefit of the amendment can be delivered in practice.

[Soil conservation plans \(items 31-35\)](#)

QFF supports modernising the framework for approving, amending and revoking soil conservation plans, including the use of contemporary notification methods and clearer links to the *Soil Conservation Guidelines for Queensland*.

QFF also supports retaining appropriate consultation and appeal rights in the ordinary course.

QFF supports the proposed ability to revoke property or project plans without full consultation where it would be unreasonable to contact all affected parties. This may be appropriate in circumstances such as large housing developments or estates, where a plan may apply to a large number of parties and comprehensive consultation would be disproportionate to the purpose of the revocation.

However, where farmers or other productive landholders are directly affected by the revocation of a soil conservation plan, they should continue to receive appropriate notification and an opportunity to be consulted before the plan is revoked.

This distinction is important to ensure that administrative flexibility does not inadvertently reduce the ability of productive landholders to understand or respond to changes that may affect the management of their land.

Conclusion

QFF supports the general direction of the *Land and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026* and considers that the proposed reforms can improve the efficiency and practicality of Queensland's land administration framework. The transition of road reserve functions to local governments will be particularly important for agricultural landholders. QFF encourages the Department to continue working with local governments to ensure a coordinated transition, consistent administration and greater consistency in road reserve fees. Further clarification is also required for infrastructure that crosses multiple local government areas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kylie Porter', is positioned above the printed name.

Kylie Porter
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Farmers' Federation