



Queensland  
Government

Office of the  
**Minister for Sustainability,  
Climate Change and Innovation**

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**26 JUN 2008**

Mr Alec Lucke  
Research and Communication Officer  
East End Mine Action Group (Inc)  
East End  
MT LARCOM QLD 4695

Dear Mr Lucke

Thank you for your letter of 26 May 2008 concerning perceived deficiencies in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

Section 251(4) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* was inserted in 2004 to ensure that applications to amend an environmental authority for mining activities do not open up the entire environmental authority, but only that portion of the environmental authority being amended. This is to ensure that operators of mines have certainty about the environmental conditions they are required to comply with, which is essential for the financial security and efficient conduct of business by the mine. Interested persons have the opportunity to object to the mine or the conditions of the environmental authority when the application for the environmental authority is first made. This includes rights of review and appeal to the court.

The *Mineral Resources Act 1989* and the Land and Resources Tribunal Rules 2000 are administered by the Minister for Mines and Energy. Accordingly, I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Geoff Wilson MP for his consideration and direct reply to you.

The Minister thanks you for bringing this matter to his attention and hopes this information clarifies the situation. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact Kate Watkins of the Environmental Protection Agency on telephone 3227 6786.

Yours sincerely

**Karen Robinson**  
Policy Advisor

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