

29 November 2024

Hon Dale Last MP Minister for Natural Resources and Mines PO Box 15216 CITY EAST QLD 4002 By email: resources@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir,

## **RE: Fox Resources**

Bundaberg Ag-Food & Fibre Alliance (BAFFA) aims to identify, research, consult and solve the challenges facing the Bundaberg primary production sector.

Our vision is a united food, fibre, renewable fuel, fishing, forestry, and foliage sectors in the Bundaberg region.

Our vision does not include a coal mine.

The Bundaberg Regional Council area is predominantly rural, and the land is used largely for forestry, agriculture, and horticulture, notably macadamias, sugar cane, fruit and vegetable growing, and cattle grazing.

Tourism is also an important industry, particularly along the coast, with the area being the southern gateway to the Great Barrier Reef. The Bundaberg Regional Council area encompasses a total land area of approximately 6,450 square kilometres.

In terms of gross value added, employment and business numbers, the Bundaberg local government area has a much greater reliance on agriculture (approx. 13 per cent) than Queensland as a whole (approx. 3.4 per cent).

In comparison, mining and resources account for less than 1% for the Bundaberg Regional Council.

There would appear to be small deposits of gas and coal in the region however, the potential impact on our groundwater resource and our farming lands has already created significant distrust and opposition to the extraction of these resources.

Community opposition to this development clearly highlights the lack of trust and negative legacy engendered by resources companies to such an extent that the proponents claim on fostering coexistence is unachievable.

BAFFA suggests that sustainable food and fibre production take precedence over resourcebased activities in our region, and we strongly recommend that this region's future land use be classified as being only available for food, fibre, and foliage production.

Should you require further explanation or clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

*Dale Holliss* Executive Director

cc Member for Bundaberg cc Member for Burnett cc Member for Callide