

Environmental Protection (Extractive Activities) Amendment Regulation 2025

Human Rights Certificate

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Andrew Powell MP, Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation provide this human rights certificate with respect to the *Environmental Protection (Extractive Activities) Amendment Regulation 2025* (Amendment Regulation) made under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

In my opinion, the *Environmental Protection (Extractive Activities) Amendment Regulation 2025*, as tabled in the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of the Subordinate Legislation

The *Environmental Protection (Extractive Activities) Amendment Regulation 2025* (Amendment Regulation) amends the prescription of extractive and screening activities as environmentally relevant activities to specifically exclude certain extractive and screening conducted by a regional local government, defined in section. The Amendment Regulation will remove the requirement for a regional local government to apply for an environmental authority when conducting extractive and screening activities of 10,000 tonnes or less per year, conducted in relation to quarry material under the *Forestry Act 1959*, and carrying out their responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 2009* or *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*.

The purpose of the Amendment Regulation is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Queensland's environmental regulatory framework by reducing regulatory burden for regional local governments undertaking necessary activities to benefit the community. This change supports sustainable development while ensuring environmental protections remain in place within other locations of Queensland.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

In my opinion, the *Environmental Protection (Extractive Activities) Amendment Regulation 2025* does not engage any of the Human Rights listed in Part 2, Division 2 and 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*. However, while these amendments themselves are considered compatible with the Act, there remains a possibility that their implementation by local governments could intersect with human rights considerations. As such, each local government authority will be responsible for conducting its own human rights impact assessment to ensure compliance within their specific jurisdiction.

Consideration of reasonable limitations on human rights (section 13 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

Not applicable.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Environmental Protection (Extractive Activities) Amendment Regulation 2025* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not limit human rights.

ANDREW POWELL MP
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

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