

THIS PUBLIC BILL has this day been read a Third time and passed

The Clerk of the Parliament.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Brisbane, June 2026*



Queensland

**No.
A BILL for**

An Act to amend the Environmental Protection Act 1994, the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014, the Regional Planning Interests Act 2014, the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014, the South Bank Corporation Act 1989 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes



Queensland

Regional Planning Interests (Condamine Alluvium) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026

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2026

A Bill

for

An Act to amend the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, the *Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014*, the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*, the *Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014*, the *South Bank Corporation Act 1989* and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes

The Parliament of Queensland enacts—

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Regional Planning Interests (Condamine Alluvium) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026*.

Part 2 Amendment of Environmental Protection Act 1994

2 Act amended

This part amends the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

3 Amendment of s 206 (Environmental authorities for particular resource activities includes particular conditions)

(1) Section 206—

insert—

(2A) Further, an environmental authority issued for a CSG activity in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area is taken to include a condition prohibiting the release of contaminants, by the operation of a well—

- (a) into waters in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area; and
- (b) resulting in water quality that is inconsistent with the water quality objectives that apply to the waters.

Note—

This subsection does not apply to particular existing or proposed wells—see section 862.

(2) Section 206(3), ‘or (2)’—

omit, insert—

, (2) or (3)

(3) Section 206(4)—

insert—

Condamine Alluvium CSG area see the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*, section 5A(2).

operation, of a well, means any stage of the life of the well, including, for example, the drilling, completion, operation, suspension or decommissioning of the well.

water quality objectives means the water quality objectives prescribed by an environmental protection policy.

(4) Section 206(2A) to (4)—

renumber as section 206(3) to (5).

4 Insertion of new ch 13, pt 36

Chapter 13—

insert—

Part 36

Transitional provision for Regional Planning Interests (Condamine Alluvium) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026

862 Non-application of s 206(3) to particular existing or proposed wells

- (1) Section 206(3) as in force on the commencement does not apply in relation to a well—
 - (a) that, on the commencement, is authorised under an environmental authority; or
 - (b) that is the subject of an existing application granted after the commencement.
- (2) Subsection (1) continues to apply to the well even if—
 - (a) the environmental authority authorising the well—
 - (i) is amended to expand or otherwise change the stages of the operation of the well that are authorised under the authority; or
 - (ii) is replaced by a new environmental authority authorising the operation of the well; or
 - (b) the holder of the environmental authority authorising the well changes.

Note—

See schedule 4, definition *holder*, paragraphs 3 and 4.

- (3) In this section—

existing application means either of the following applications made but not decided before the commencement—

 - (a) an application for an environmental authority;
 - (b) an amendment application for an environmental authority.

operation, of a well, see section 206(5) as in force on the commencement.

101H Definitions for part

In this part—

affected land see section 101G.

CSG activity means an activity involving exploring for or producing coal seam gas.

CSG-induced subsidence means sinking of the ground resulting from CSG activities.

CSG resource authority means a resource authority—

- (a) that is—
 - (i) an authority to prospect under the P&G Act that authorises exploring and testing for coal seam gas; or
 - (ii) a petroleum lease under the P&G Act that authorises the production of coal seam gas; and
- (b) whose authorised area is wholly or partly in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area.

eligible subsidence claimant means an eligible subsidence claimant under section 101J(2) or 101K(2).

subsidence compensatable effect, suffered by an owner or occupier of affected land because of a CSG resource authority, means an effect suffered by the owner or occupier—

- (a) resulting from the impact of CSG-induced subsidence that—
 - (i) is caused by authorised activities carried out under the CSG resource authority, whether or not the activities were carried out on the owner's or occupier's land; and

- (ii) affects the ability to carry out agricultural activities, or the productivity of agricultural activities carried out, on the owner's or occupier's land; and
- (b) that—
 - (i) is of a kind mentioned in section 81(4), definition *compensatable effect*, paragraph (a)(i) to (v) or (b); or
 - (ii) would be of a kind mentioned in section 81(4), definition *compensatable effect*, paragraph (a)(i) to (v) or (b) if the authorised activities mentioned in paragraph (a)(i) were carried out on the owner's or occupier's land.

subsidence compensation liability, to an eligible subsidence claimant, see section 101J(3)(a) or 101K(3).

Division 2 Drilling directional well requires agreement

101I Application of s 43 in relation to drilling directional well

- (1) This section applies in relation to drilling a directional well in the authorised area, or a part of the authorised area, of a CSG resource authority to the extent the area or part of the area is affected land.
- (2) For section 43, drilling the directional well is an advanced activity for the CSG resource authority.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies—

- (a) whether or not the drilling would otherwise be an advanced activity under section 15A; and
- (b) whether or not another advanced activity is carried out on the affected land under the CSG resource authority.

Division 3 Liability to compensate for CSG-induced subsidence

Subdivision 1 Subsidence compensation liability

101J Liability for land in authorised area or access land

- (1) This section applies to a CSG resource authority holder in relation to affected land that is—
 - (a) in the authorised area of the CSG resource authority; or
 - (b) access land for the CSG resource authority.
- (2) The CSG resource authority holder is liable to compensate the owner or occupier of the affected land (each an *eligible subsidence claimant*) for each subsidence compensatable effect suffered by the eligible subsidence claimant because of the CSG resource authority.
- (3) The CSG resource authority holder's liability to compensate an eligible subsidence claimant under subsection (2)—
 - (a) is the holder's *subsidence compensation liability* to the claimant; and
 - (b) is also—

- (i) the holder's compensation liability to the claimant under section 81; or
 - (ii) if the holder has other compensation liability to the claimant under section 81—a part of the holder's compensation liability to the claimant under section 81.
- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that, for applying subsection (3)(b) under part 7, the eligible subsidence claimant is an eligible claimant under section 81.
- (5) This section does not limit the circumstances in which a resource authority holder's compensation liability to an eligible claimant under section 81 may be or include liability for an effect resulting from subsidence suffered by the claimant.

101K Liability for particular other land

- (1) This section applies to a CSG resource authority holder in relation to affected land—
 - (a) that is—
 - (i) within the prescribed distance outside the authorised area of the CSG resource authority; and
 - (ii) not access land for the CSG resource authority; and
 - (b) whether or not the land is in the authorised area of, or access land for, another CSG resource authority.
- (2) The CSG resource authority holder is liable to compensate the owner or occupier of the affected land (each an *eligible subsidence claimant*) for each subsidence compensatable effect suffered by the eligible subsidence claimant because of the CSG resource authority.

- (3) The CSG resource authority holder's liability to compensate an eligible subsidence claimant under subsection (2) is the holder's ***subsidence compensation liability*** to the eligible subsidence claimant.
- (4) In this section—
prescribed distance means—
 - (a) if a regulation prescribes a distance for this definition—the distance prescribed; or
 - (b) otherwise—5 km.

Subdivision 2 Disputes about subsidence compensation liability

101L Application of subdivision

- (1) This subdivision applies in relation to a CSG resource authority holder's subsidence compensation liability to an eligible subsidence claimant.
- (2) However, this subdivision does not apply if—
 - (a) under part 7—
 - (i) the CSG resource authority holder and eligible subsidence claimant have entered into a conduct and compensation agreement relating to the holder's compensation liability to the claimant; or
 - (ii) a dispute resolution process involving the CSG resource authority holder's compensation liability to the eligible subsidence claimant has been started or

decided, including by a decision of the Land Court; or

- (b) under the CSG resource authority, the CSG resource authority holder, or a person authorised by the holder, is carrying out or proposing to carry out on the eligible subsidence claimant's land authorised activities that are advanced activities.

101M References to subsidence compensation liability

A reference in this subdivision to subsidence compensation liability is taken to include a reference to future subsidence compensation liability.

101N Land Court may hear dispute

- (1) This section applies if a dispute about subsidence compensation liability arises between the following persons (each a *party*)—
 - (a) the holder of a CSG resource authority;
 - (b) an eligible subsidence claimant.
- (2) Either party may apply to the Land Court to decide the dispute.
- (3) The Land Court may make any order it considers appropriate to enable or enforce its decision on an application under subsection (2).
- (4) Without limiting subsection (3), the Land Court may do any or all of the following—
 - (a) assess all or part of the subsidence compensation liability;
 - (b) decide a matter related to the subsidence compensation liability;

- (c) make any order it considers necessary or desirable for a matter mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b);
- (d) order non-monetary compensation as well as monetary compensation.

101O Review of subsidence compensation by Land Court

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the subsidence compensation liability of a CSG resource authority holder to an eligible subsidence claimant (the *original compensation*) has been decided by the Land Court under section 101N; and
 - (b) there has been a material change in circumstances (the *change*) since the decision was made.
- (2) Either the CSG resource authority holder or eligible subsidence claimant may apply to the Land Court for a review of the original compensation.
- (3) In carrying out the review, the Land Court may review the original compensation only to the extent it is affected by the change.
- (4) If the Land Court considers the original compensation is not affected by the change, it must not carry out or continue with the review.
- (5) The Land Court may, after carrying out the review, decide to confirm the original compensation or amend it in a way the court considers appropriate.

101P Land Court decision binding on successors and assigns

- (1) This section applies to a decision of the Land Court under section 101N or 101O.
- (2) The decision binds the parties in the proceeding that led to the decision, and each of their successors and assigns.

8 Insertion of new ch 10, pt 4

Chapter 10—

insert—

Part 4

Transitional provisions for Regional Planning Interests (Condamine Alluvium) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026

249 Meaning of particular terms

If the context permits, a term used in this part and defined in section 101H has the same meaning in this part as it has under that section.

250 Application of s 43 in relation to drilling directional well

- (1) Section 101I applies in relation to drilling a directional well, as mentioned in that section, that starts after the commencement.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies even if drilling the directional well was an authorised activity for the CSG resource authority immediately before the commencement.

- (3) For section 43(1)(a), each of the following is taken to be a conduct and compensation agreement about drilling the directional well and its effects—
- (a) a conduct and compensation agreement between the CSG resource authority holder and the owner or occupier of the affected land about the drilling and its effects that was in effect immediately before the commencement;
 - (b) an agreement, other than a conduct and compensation agreement, between the CSG resource authority holder and the owner or occupier of the affected land that—
 - (i) provides for the holder making a financial payment to the owner or occupier in relation to the drilling; and
 - (ii) was in effect immediately before the commencement.
- (4) Subsection (3) applies in relation to an agreement even if the agreement does not expressly provide for compensation for CSG-induced subsidence on the affected land caused by drilling the directional well.

251 Subsidence compensation liability—affected land that is in an authorised area or access land

- (1) A CSG resource authority holder’s subsidence compensation liability to an eligible subsidence claimant under section 101J applies in relation to—
- (a) a CSG activity carried out under the CSG resource authority, whether before or after the commencement; and

- (b) a subsidence compensatable effect suffered by the eligible subsidence claimant, whether before or after the commencement.
- (2) A conduct and compensation agreement between the CSG resource authority holder and the eligible subsidence claimant that was in effect immediately before the commencement—
 - (a) continues to apply in relation to the holder's compensation liability to the claimant; and
 - (b) is taken to also apply to the holder's subsidence compensation liability to the claimant.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies even if the conduct and compensation agreement does not provide for the CSG resource authority holder's subsidence compensation liability to the eligible subsidence claimant.
- (4) A decision of the Land Court under chapter 3, part 7 about the CSG resource authority holder's compensation liability to the eligible subsidence claimant made before the commencement—
 - (a) continues to apply in relation to the holder's compensation liability to the claimant; and
 - (b) is taken to also apply to the holder's subsidence compensation liability to the claimant.
- (5) Subsection (4) applies even if the Land Court's decision does not provide for the CSG resource authority holder's subsidence compensation liability to the eligible subsidence claimant.

252 Subsidence compensation liability—other particular affected land

A CSG resource authority holder's subsidence compensation liability to an eligible subsidence

claimant under section 101K applies in relation to—

- (a) a CSG activity carried out under the CSG resource authority, whether before or after the commencement; and
- (b) a subsidence compensatable effect suffered by the eligible subsidence claimant, whether before or after the commencement.

9 Amendment of sch 2 (Dictionary)

(1) Schedule 2—

insert—

affected land, for chapter 3, part 9, see section 101G.

Condamine Alluvium CSG area see the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*, section 5A(2).

CSG activity, for chapter 3, part 9, see section 101H.

CSG-induced subsidence see section 101H.

CSG resource authority, for chapter 3, part 9, see section 101H.

directional well means a part of a petroleum well, within the meaning given by the P&G Act, that is intentionally not drilled vertically.

eligible subsidence claimant, for chapter 3, part 9, see section 101H.

subsidence compensatable effect, suffered by an owner or occupier of affected land because of a CSG resource authority, for chapter 3, part 9, see section 101H.

subsidence compensation liability, to an eligible subsidence claimant, for chapter 3, part 9, see section 101J(3)(a) or 101K(3).

- (2) Schedule 2, definition *compensation liability*, paragraph (a)(i)—

insert—

Note—

See also section 101J(3)(b) for other amounts that are compensation liability to an eligible claimant.

Part 4 **Amendment of Regional Planning Interests Act 2014**

10 **Act amended**

This part amends the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*.

11 **Insertion of new s 5A**

After section 5—

insert—

5A Application of Act to Condamine Alluvium CSG area

- (1) This Act applies to a resource activity or regulated activity in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area subject to section 59(3).
- (2) The *Condamine Alluvium CSG area* is an area that—
 - (a) includes all or part of the aquifer known as the Condamine Alluvium; and
 - (b) is shown as the Condamine Alluvium CSG area on a map approved by regulation and published on the department's website.

13 Amendment of s 59 (Regional interests conditions paramount)

- (1) Section 59, heading, after ‘conditions’—

insert—

generally

- (2) Section 59—

insert—

- (2A) However, if the authority is an environmental authority issued for a CSG activity in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area—

- (a) subsection (2) does not apply to a condition, applying in relation to a well, that is imposed on the authority under the Environmental Protection Act, section 206(3); and
- (b) the condition mentioned in paragraph (a) prevails to the extent of any inconsistency with a condition of the approval.

- (3) Section 59(3), ‘subsection (2)’—

omit, insert—

subsections (2) and (3)

- (4) Section 59(2A) and (3)—

renumber as section 59(3) and (4).

- (5) Section 59—

insert—

- (5) In this section—

CSG activity see the Environmental Protection Act, schedule 4.

15 Amendment of sch 1 (Dictionary)

Schedule 1—

insert—

Condamine Alluvium CSG area see section 5A(2).

Part 5

Amendment of Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014

16 Regulation amended

This part amends the *Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014*.

Note—

See also the amendment in schedule 1.

17 Insertion of new pt 3A

After part 3—

insert—

Part 3A

Condamine Alluvium CSG area

10A Condamine Alluvium CSG area—Act, s 5A

For section 5A(2)(b) of the Act, the map titled ‘Condamine Alluvium CSG area map—version 1.0’ held by the department is approved.

Note—

The map is published on the department’s website.

Part 5A **Amendment of South Bank Corporation Act 1989**

17A Act amended

This part amends the *South Bank Corporation Act 1989*.

17B Amendment of s 12 (Deputies of members)

Section 12—

insert—

- (4) The Governor in Council may, at any time, remove a deputy of a member from office for any reason or none.

17C Amendment of a 13 (Corporation manager)

Section 13—

insert—

- (4) The Governor in Council may, at any time, remove a corporation manager from office for any reason or none.

17D Insertion of new pt 11, div 11

Part 11—

insert—

Division 11	Transitional provisions for Regional Planning Interests (Condamine Alluvium) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026
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145 Removal of deputy member from office

Section 12(4) applies to a deputy of a member whether the deputy is appointed before or after the commencement.

146 Removal of corporation manager from office

Section 13(4) applies to a corporation manager whether the manager is appointed before or after the commencement.

147 Removal of board member from office

Schedule 1, clause 3 as in force from the commencement applies to a board member whether the member is appointed before or after the commencement.

17E Amendment of sch 1, cl 3 (Ceasing to be member)

(1) Schedule 1, clause 3(1)(c), after ‘subclause (2)’—

insert—

or (3)

(2) Schedule 1, clause 3—

insert—

(3) Also, the Governor in Council may, at any time, remove a member from office for any reason or none.

Part 6 Other amendments

18 Legislation amended

Schedule 1 amends the legislation it mentions.

Schedule 1 Other amendments

section 18

Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014

1 Section 37—

insert—

Note—

See also part 9 for other provisions that apply to private land in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area.

2 Section 43(1), after penalty—

insert—

Note—

See also section 101I for the application of this section in relation to drilling a directional well in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area.

3 Section 45(4), note, ‘section 81’—

omit, insert—

sections 81 and 101J

4 Section 81(2)—

insert—

Note—

See also part 9, division 3 in relation to compensation liability relating to CSG-induced subsidence on private land in the Condamine Alluvium CSG area.

- 5 Section 92(11), definition *party*, ‘chapter 3, part 7,’—**
omit.

Petroleum Act 1923

- 1 Section 2, definitions *compensation liability*, *conduct and compensation agreement*, *conduct and compensation agreement requirement* and *deferral agreement*—**
omit.

Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004

- 1 Section 560(5)—**
insert—
access land, for a petroleum authority, see the
Common Provisions Act, section 47(3).
- 2 Schedule 2, definitions *access land*, *access rights*,
conduct and compensation agreement and *deferral agreement*—**
omit.

Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014

- 1 Section 3(2), note,
‘www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2012L02240’—**
omit, insert—

www.legislation.gov.au

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