

9 February 2011

Dr Ted Tyne
Director
Mineral Resources Group
Primary Industries and Resources SA
GPO Box 1671
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Dear Dr Tyne *Ted*

Re: Mining Regulations 2011

The South Australian Farmers Federation (SAFF) was very disappointed in the Mining (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2010 that was eventually passed through State Parliament. The SAFF believes that it is imperative that the Mining Act 1971 is completely rewritten –is out of date.

The amendments passed last year do little to improve the Act. SAFF had been hopeful, as during the Parliamentary debate there were some worthwhile amendments passed in the Legislative Council, but unfortunately these were knocked out.

The subsequent draft Mining Regulations 2011 do little to reduce the burden on farmers as landholders when the mining industry wants to explore and mine.

In relation to the draft regulations, I wish to raise the following:

- As the Bill did amend the compensation provisions, does there need to be mention of compensation in the Regulations?
- Under Section 61 of the Mining Regulations 2011, there should be mention of who represents the mining company in relation to notice of entry. Recently SAFF was told of an instance where a mining company was apparently represented by a geology student so as to gain access to a farm.

- Under Section 92 of the Mining Regulations 2011 it states that “the holder of the tenement is not required to give the pastoral lessee access to water provided or stored by the lessee by artificial means.” Why not?

It is a great pity that where exploration has a significant detrimental impact on a farming business, that there is no requirement to force the mining company to acquire the land.

In addition to landholders’ rights, the impact on communities has also been ignored. This must be recognised especially in areas where there is significant urbanisation in what were predominately rural areas.

Yours sincerely



Carol Vincent
CHIEF EXECUTIVE