



Industry-led Engagement in Rural Policy

Learnings from the Past Lessons for the Future

Queensland Rangelands Policy Dialogue, 1-2 July 2019

ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE AGRIBUSINESS



Learnings from the Past

- Setting policy in isolation of industry is a recipe for disaster
- Politicising critical debates leads to worsening economic, social, cultural, biodiversity and environmental outcomes
- Patting industry on the head condescendingly is unhelpful and not appreciated by an industry that has so much to offer
- All the answers are not to be found in Brisbane or within the Scientific Community
- A 'One Size Fits All' approach to our 13 unique bio-regions is by definition harmful to at least 12 of those bio-regions
- Legislating minimum standards AND incenting best practice accelerates progress far faster than either in isolation
- Industry wants to be a far stronger part of the work and the solution – and is incredibly frustrated by not being so to date
- No one is winning – **our environments certainly are not**



Lessons for the future

Are we (Queensland) up for it?

- Our Industry can contribute so much more economically, socially & environmentally if we reset our engagement framework.
- Industry should be an equal partner
- Landscapes (including State Forests) need to be managed with a long term plan and a baseline agreed & firmly set in place.
- There needs to be a full review of pertinent Acts (such as VMA & NCA) with history, experience and science guiding those reviews.
- A bi-partisan approach is necessary to optimize strengthened outcomes given the long term nature of landscape planning.
- A 'Vision' and 'Purpose' for the industry, communities and landscapes is a critical early underpinning (currently missing)
- Landholders are not the enemy, they want to care for ecosystem health & need a framework that supports them in doing so
- It is not too late for Queensland to lead the way in Australia



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