29 May 2026

Biosecurity Regulation Consultation,
Biosecurity Queensland,
GPO Box 46
Brisbane QLD 4001.
BQConsultation@dpi.qld.gov.au

Dear Biosecurity Queensland,

RE: Sunset review of Queensland's Biosecurity Regulation 2016

Thank you for the chance to make a brief submission in support of the remake of Queensland's Biosecurity Regulation 2016. Australian Energy Producers (AEP) is the peak body representing Australia's natural gas and oil explorers, developers and producers.

We congratulate Biosecurity Queensland on the well-structured set consultation papers – the impact analysis statement is a paragon of regulatory clarity. The regulatory options are clearly and thoroughly set out, and it has made it easy for stakeholders to follow the Government's thinking.

The quality of Queensland's biosecurity systems is a key focus for the natural gas industry. The industry operates in, under and around a whole range of existing agricultural businesses with the aim of mutually beneficial coexistence. Over the years, the industry has funded community wash-down facilities and a range of biosecurity awareness training to address landholder concerns around biosecurity management under land access arrangements.

Queensland's resource industry was a key stakeholder in the original development of the *Queensland Biosecurity Act* in 2014. The industry was part of a steering group which helped to frame up the General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) in the development of that Act.

Today, the natural gas industry has two key focus areas on delivering practical biosecurity. The first is ensuring that the industry's operations are meeting their general biosecurity obligations and can be clearly seen to be discharging these responsibilities by the landholders who host industry operations right across regional Queensland. The second is that it is becoming increasingly common for landholder's biosecurity management plan for their property to be a key condition of land access. This conditioning process in the development of the land access agreement aligns the landholder's biosecurity risk management practices with the gas industry's land access processes.

The industry's view is that the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 has provided an important framework for the natural gas industry to deliver both key biosecurity priorities. As such, we support the remake of the Regulation.

While industry's operations are not directly affected by the proposed amendments to the remade Regulation identified as preferred option 3 in the discussion paper, the arguments presented for these reforms make a cogent case for change. We'd reserve our firm view on these proposed reforms until we've had an opportunity to hear from key agricultural stakeholders about how they view the changes. We think the forthcoming Queensland Biosecurity Partners' Forum on 18 June will be a good opportunity to hear more from our biosecurity stakeholders. We are looking forward to that forum and thank Biosecurity Queensland for the invitation to participate.

Thank you again for the opportunity to make a brief submission in support of remaking the Biosecurity Regulation. I'd be happy to answer any questions that you may have about any of the points made in this submission and I can be contacted on kknudsen@energyproducers.au.

Your sincerely,

Keld Knudsen
General Manager – States & Territories, and
Director - Queensland