Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Rural Economic Development Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021

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, Mark Furner MP, Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities, make this statement of compatibility with respect to the *Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Rural Economic Development Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021* made under the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

In my opinion, the Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Rural Economic Development Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021 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 Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Rural Economic Development Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021 is made under the Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994.

The authorising law for the regulation is section 44 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act* 1994.

All schemes of financial assistance administered by the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) are required to be set out in regulation.

The Rural Economic Development (RED) Grants are a Queensland Government initiative administered by QRIDA intended to support rural economic development and create employment in rural and regional Queensland. The RED Grants do this by providing grants (matched by the applicant) to business applicants to allow them to invest in new investments related to primary production.

The amendment regulation is to make minor amendments to Schedule 32 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Regulation 2011* to allow QRIDA to continue to administer the RED Grants program. These amendments are to

- allow QRIDA to continue to administer the scheme beyond its current closing date of 30 June 2021
- at a new maximum level of assistance of \$200,000 (previous to these amendments, the maximum amount was \$250,000) and
- increase the areas potentially eligible to apply for a RED grant with only local government areas of Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan and Redlands to be ineligible to apply.

Human Rights Issues

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

The potential impact of the Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Rural Economic Development Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021 on the human rights in sections 15 to 37 of the Human Rights Act 2019 was considered and no potential impact was identified.

Conclusion

I consider that the Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Rural Economic Development Grants Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2021 is compatible with the Human Rights Act because it does not limit any of the human rights protected by the Human Rights Act 2019.

Mark Furner MP

Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities

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