

Author name: L. Johnstone

Date of submission: Tuesday, 18 June 2013

Submission: Why the need for another levy for pest management when we already have the framework in place. My understanding is that the LLS will be based on the old LHPA regions. All graziers are forced to pay a locust levy, if the state is divided from North to South based on the LHPA regions, west of the line continue to pay the locust levy, to the east of the line the locust levy is renamed the pest animal control levy. This way the levy remains in place no further cost is forced on producers and it is a win, win situation. It would be cheaper to manage and implement without the cost of implementing an entire new levy. The locust funding that has been paid to date is substantial, and is not been used for what is was originally designed, should some of this funding be diverted and the state divided as suggested the money should be available to support pest management control programs. Suggested boundaries could be East / West division as the current LHPA regions (North West, Central North, Tablelands, South East boundary from North to South) a name change rather than an entire new levy, I should not be cynical but this is another way to gouge more revenue for a new organisation to do absolutely nothing.