

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 March 2022 4:19 PM  
**To:** CHA\_Review  
**Subject:** Submission: Review of Queensland Cultural Heritage Acts (Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 and the Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003)

**EXTERNAL SENDER:** This email originated from outside the organisation. Please be vigilant with any external email you receive and use caution before responding. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content can be trusted.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am heartbroken to read that the Wangan and Jagalingou people cannot veto any destruction on the Adani site, no matter how culturally significant a site may be and that, even if they wanted to, Cultural Heritage Committee members had no power to prevent the bulldozing and detonation of this site.

I also read that Adani gave the Cultural Heritage Committee just a few weeks' notice of planned clearance works, and gave a select group just 9 days to sort through thousands of artefacts – despite knowing about the significance of the cultural heritage site since 2018.

Adani also ignored expert advice from archaeologists that the site should be carefully excavated to a depth of 1.5m. Instead, Adani bulldozed 60cm of topsoil and dumped our precious artefacts in heaps of rubble at another location, a site that our people have been denied access to.

This is appalling and unacceptable. I am deeply concerned that it is a Labor party allowing this kind of deeply disrespectful treatment of traditional custodians and cultural desecration of their sacred land and allowing an extremely unethical company like Adani to reap profits while ramping up climate derangement. I have just lived through the floods in Northern Rivers and the last thing we need is more and more fossil fueled disasters!

I urge you to reform the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Acts to better protect First Nations cultural heritage in Queensland. Please also

- Stop destroying the religious and heritage sites of Aboriginal peoples
- Amend the definition of 'Aboriginal party' so that traditional owners with cultural connection to Country can be involved in consultation and negotiation processes, regardless of their status as a native title party.
- Create greater enforcement powers for First Nations, so that we aren't reliant on the State to protect their cultural heritage if it is in imminent danger of harm or destruction.
- Establish an independent First Nations-led decision-making body that is responsible for dispute resolution and mediation, and for assessing who the right people to speak for Country are.

Yours sincerely,  
Jennifer Cargill