

# CASH FOR LEGISLATION? Did Mr Newman lie to Queenslanders, while doing a secret deal with Sibelco?

Belgian owned miner Sibelco stands to reap \$1.5 Billion from Campbell Newman's 2013 Stradbroke legislation. Sibelco helped Campbell Newman win the last election with a \$1million + political campaign, including 108 prime time TV ads, numerous full page newspaper and cinema ads - source: Report tabled in parliament. But only \$91,840, for Sibelco's "Straddie Mothers" letters which the company distributed in Ashgrove, was declared to the Queensland Electoral Commission. In 2012, it was an offence to spend more than \$500,000. How did Sibelco get away with it?

## What did Campbell Newman promise the public?

Campbell Newman promised before the last election he would restore rights on Stradbroke and not give Sibelco anything more - source: ABC radio transcript. But he broke that promise.

## Secret 'cash for legislation' Deal?

As revealed in parliament, Campbell Newman attended secret meetings with Sibelco representatives, who later wrote the amendments to the North Stradbroke legislation, extending Sibelco's mining interests on the island and extinguishing citizens' rights to object and challenge any extension in court.

Alarmingly, the Stradbroke legislation was then used by the Newman government as a precedent to remove citizen objection and court appeal rights for new mines all over Queensland!

**ALL CITIZEN RIGHTS TO OBJECT TO MINING LEASES SHOULD BE RESTORED**

**ALL RIGHTS OF APPEAL TO THE COURTS SHOULD BE RESTORED**

## What did Sibelco get?

1. Longer term mining through an opportunity to extend leases expiring in 2019
2. A 300% increase in the area able to be mined
3. Removal of environmental safeguards
4. On Sibelco's own figures, potentially \$1.5 Billion in extra revenue for its Belgian owners.

**THE LNP AMENDMENTS TO THE NORTH STRADBROKE ACT SHOULD BE REPEALED. THE RESTRICTED MINE AREA AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS SHOULD BE REINSTATED**

## Who is sand mining company Sibelco?

Sibelco is a privately owned Belgian company. The profits from the sale of the mineral sands go to a rich European family. What do Queenslanders get? About 100 short term, destructive jobs, only \$2 - \$3 million annual royalties and a degraded 'national park' as a future legacy. Meanwhile, Sibelco has been prosecuted for unlawfully taking and selling Straddie sand to the landscape and construction industries. The verdict on these criminal charges is due any day.

## What about the indigenous owners, who won their native title claim in 2011?

Sand mining is destroying their land and cultural heritage. Spokespeople say the majority of the Island's indigenous people want mining to end and oppose the Newman Government's amendments.

For the facts and sources go to the home page of [www.savestraddie.com](http://www.savestraddie.com)

**Some places are just too precious to mine – places like North Stradbroke Island.  
Facebook Save Straddie!**



# Hasn't enough harm been done to Stradbroke? Isn't it time sand mining was stopped on Straddie?

North Stradbroke is the world's second largest sand island, only 40km from the Brisbane CBD. More than 50% is National Park and Straddie's wetlands – home to threatened migratory and other birds – are internationally recognised. Sand mining causes “major, permanent and irreversible environmental harm” - Fraser Island Enquiry 1976. Scientists say the island ecological balance is at a tipping point after years of mining.

## What's at stake?

“North Stradbroke has the most diverse array of flora and fauna among the Moreton Bay islands” - p.42 Qld Museum's Wild Guide to Moreton Bay.

Under an LNP government, over 10 square kilometres of mostly undisturbed old growth Eucalypt forest and woodland will be cleared for mining at Enterprise mine - Qld Dept of Environment 2013.

These forests support a rich variety of wildlife within a complex biological system.

Nesting hollows for owls, gliders and other animals in old growth gums which take at least 120 years to form, will be destroyed.

Sand mines also damage areas outside leases – including Ramsar listed freshwater lagoons and wetlands - Current investigation by Federal Environment Department.

Threatened Species at risk from mining include Koalas, Glossy Black Cockatoos, Pygmy Perch (rare freshwater fish), Wallum Froglet and three other “acid frogs”, and Swamp Orchids – All listed as threatened under Australian Environment law.

### How can the onslaught of mining be held back?

In 2013 the Newman government passed amendments to the North Stradbroke Island Act which allow Belgian owned Sibelco to apply for an extension of sand mining to 2035. But the application to extend cannot be made until 2019. The Queensland Parliament can repeal the Newman amendments before 2019 – so anytime in the next 5 years.

### What can I do?

You can help by starting to spread the word that mining on Straddie can be stopped. Scan this leaflet and email your contacts and election candidates.



Friends of Stradbroke Island. [www.fosi.org.au](http://www.fosi.org.au) Facebook Save Straddie