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Hello

Thanks for drafting the Biodiversity Act and making it available for feedback. It is essential to provide clarity on how to protect and enhance our states biodiversity while enabling the services required for climate change and maintaining living standards (thinking Desal plants, Solar and Wind Developments, HV transmission lines, Mining for critical minerals, Food Security etc).

A couple of observations from the explanatory guide for your consideration:

1. The mitigation hierarchy seems to only apply to Native Vegetation (perhaps a hangover of the NV Act(?)). There may be merit in an overarching mitigation hierarchy principle for all biodiversity
2. Water related biodiversity only seems to apply to Native Veg removal impacts on GW or Surface water systems. There are many other potential impacts to water related biodiversity than just Native Vegetation removal. How to capture these is another question....

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Regards

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