1. The Bill amends the *Environmental Protection Act 1994, Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001, Integrated Planning Act 1997,* and *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.
2. The Bill moves into the Environmental Protection Act the current offence provisions in the *Environmental Protection Regulation 1998*,the *Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 1997* and the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 1997* relating to environmental nuisance, water pollution, air pollution and fuel quality standards.
3. The penalties for environmental nuisance (including specific noise offences), air pollution and water pollution are proposed to be increased.
4. The amendments to the Environmental Protection Act also provide for a new Direction Notice with a streamlined process and simplified evidentiary requirements.
5. Local government will have the flexibility to respond to complaints administratively (for example, through education or advice) or by using the regulatory tools under the Environmental Protection Act. The specific noise standards in the Environmental Protection Act will be the default benchmark for noise and these now prescribe a decibel level above the background noise level.
6. The Environmental Protection Agency consulted publicly on the proposed changes to environmental nuisance and minor water pollution through the release of a regulatory impact statement for the Environmental Protection Regulation earlier this year.
7. The legislation also amends the Nature Conservation Act to formalise the status of the independent scientific advisory committee established to assess the impacts of horse riding on the south-east Queensland trail network announced by the government in December 2007.
8. Cabinet approved the Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
9. *Attachments for release*
* [Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008](attachments/Environmental%20Protection%20and%20Other%20Legislation%20Amendment%20Bill%20No%202.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](attachments/Environmental%20Protection%20and%20OLA%20Bill%20No%202EXPNOTES.pdf)