1. There are strong long-term economic opportunities for Queensland’s rural landholders selling carbon credits from land-based actions that reduce or sequester carbon (land sector abatement).
2. In August 2010, the Commonwealth Government committed to introduce the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) to provide a framework for the creation of tradeable credits for land sector abatement.
3. In November 2010, the Commonwealth Government released a stakeholder consultation paper outlining the proposed design of the CFI.
4. Queensland’s response to the consultation paper expresses broad support for the CFI, subject to satisfactory resolution of the following:
* The application of integrity standards which may prevent some forms of Kyoto-compliant abatement from accreditation;
* The complexity of integrity standards and other administrative requirements, which may provide barriers to broad participation by rural landholders;
* Methodological issues associated with including regrowth vegetation and other forms of biodiverse carbon forestry; and
* Implications for State legislation and administrative processes, such as those relating to the rights of lessees and Indigenous landholders.
1. Cabinet noted the Queensland Government response to the public consultation paper on the Commonwealth’s Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI).
2. *Attachments*
* [Commonwealth consultation paper Design of the Carbon Farming Initiative](Attachments/Commonwealth%20consultation%20paper.pdf)
* [Queensland Government response to the public consultation paper on the Commonwealth’s Design of the Carbon Farming Initiative](Attachments/Qld%20Govt%20response.pdf)