

## **Submission on the Tax Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Reform Opportunities –Discussion Paper**

I object to the proposal to make environmental organisations divert 25-50% of tax deductible donations to on ground environmental remediation work.

I give my money to environmental advocacy organisations such as the TEC, NCC, NPA and EDO because I want them to advocate for environmental protection, whether it is by legal challengers, education, research or advertising. I do not want 25-50% of my donation for advocacy given to remediation work. There are already organisations such as Bushcare, Landcare and Coastcare who carry out remediation works. If I want my money to go to remediation I would donate to these organisations.

The environment is best served by the protection of our existing complex, diverse and functioning ecosystems. Remediation, whether it is assisted natural regeneration, revegetation, reconstruction or reclamations rarely if ever produces an ecosystem as complex and diverse as the original. It is therefore most beneficial, both economically and environmentally, to prevent damage rather than to repair damage.

In addition it would be an administrative nightmare for advocacy organisations such as the EDO and NCC to manage the division of monies.

I would like environmental advocacy agencies treated in the same manner as other charities; when I give money to Vision Australia, Indigenous Community Volunteers or the Smith Family I am confident that they carry out work according to the aims of the charity, administer the money under the guidance of the ACNC and that I will have access to newsletters and financial reports. I do not understand why these environmental organisations have been singled out.

In conclusion:

- I would like the ACNC to regulate all charities
- I support the maintenance of existing tax concessions for all charities and donors
- I absolutely reject the proposal to channel 25-50% of my tax deductible donations to advocacy and research organisations to organisations I have not chosen.

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