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2/8/2017

Senior Adviser
Individual and Indirect Tax Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

DGR@Treasury.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to oppose the current proposal to restrict the use of funds by environmental groups by requiring that a fixed proportion of these funds be allocated to "remediation work".

I am personally committed to donating as much money as I can afford to worthwhile charities, in order to make at least a little contribution to making the world in which we live a better place. My current list of charities that I support include Caritas, World Vision, Environment Victoria, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, Brigidine Asylum Seekers project, Greenfleet, St Vincent de Paul plus a number of other less well known organisations.

I am continually impressed by how well these organisations manage their very limited resources and the amount of good they do with so little.

One of the ways they are able to achieve such good is through active promotion of activities and policies that would mitigate some of the problems facing our world. For example Environment Victoria seeks to inform the general public about the need to cut pollution, increase clean energy, phase out coal, protect our rivers and promote energy efficiency. These areas are very important to protecting the environment in that they seek to reduce current and future damage. It is much more important to focus on prevention through good policy and activity than it is to try to mitigate damage that has already occurred.

Therefore I strongly oppose any change in regulations that would force organisations to focus a large part of their very limited funding on remediation work. I want to see my donation used to reduce future problems and this can only occur if the public is made aware of the imminent dangers of poor environmental policies. It is important that organisations are able to continue their critical work in this area, unencumbered by short sighted restrictions on how donated money can be spent.

I would appreciate your serious consideration of my views on this matter and hope that proposals to restrict the use of funds are rejected.

Yours sincerely
John Egan [REDACTED]

