

4th August, 2017

Senior Advisor

Individuals and Indirect Tax Division

The Treasury

Langton Crescent

PARKES ACT 2600

Dear Sir,

TREASURY DISCUSSION PAPER ON TAX DEDUCTION GIFT RECIPIENT REFORM

The proposed changes to charities involving environment groups is under attack from the government who want to make it harder for charities to retain their ability to offer tax deductions to donors. People are seeing through the reasons given and seeing that it is actually a way to weaken the environmental charities and make it more onerous for them to comply and not attractive to donors.

Well, people can see through this nastiness. The government fears the power of the environmental movement and are making these amendments to weaken and demoralise environmental groups. These are the groups that are questioning the government's promotion of fossil fuels over renewables, people who want bushland saved from development, people advocating and educating others about the insidious damage big businesses wreak on our environment, with no expectation that big business will fix up the damage they cause. Instead the government chooses to crucify small charities.

I think this is disgusting and cowardly and I think environmental charities should not be attacked in this way. The government should be protecting the environment as the electorate wishes it to.

Please don't force these changes onto environmental charities for the benefit of the government and to make it easier to destroy the land Australians love and cherish. The government does not know how to protect the land, that is why the people have to make these charities – to protect what we love because the Government won't.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Shergill

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