

**From:** [Vivien Smith](#)  
**To:** [DGR Inbox](#)  
**Subject:** REMEDIATION IS THE AMBULANCE AT THE BASE OF THE CLIFF  
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I wish to make a submission regarding the consultation paper which proposes potential reforms to Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) tax arrangements. Forcing environmental advocacy groups to spend their scarce resources on remedying damage already done by others instead of lobbying to prevent said damage occurring in the first place would equate to allowing them to station an ambulance at the bottom of the cliff to treat anyone who toppled over the edge but forbidding them to install a fence along the top to stop people falling in the first place.

I would love to see a time when such groups were no longer needed because everyone in power had the courage, foresight and intellectual capacity to understand and acknowledge the bleeding obvious : if we poison our soil, water or atmosphere now for short term financial gain, and if we fail by inaction to significantly mitigate the looming climatic catastrophe, our grandchildren and beyond will be most unlikely to have any quick fixes available. Worldwide frequent and widespread coastal flooding will render most such areas uninsurable, and- anyway - uninhabitable. So where will we all move to? (Inland Australia already has achronic shortage of water). There will also be a significant and chronic shortage of uncontaminated soil and drinking water to sustain Earth's burgeoning population. We are therefore condemning future generations to global economic and social disruption that will make today's already massive refugee problems look like a cake walk. However, since current indications do not point to such political enlightenment occurring nearly soon enough, environmental advocacy groups are doing all that they possibly can to do our leaders' job for them - at least to some extent. Please do not hinder them from this vital task. In the long run prevention is always better than cure, and environmental groups will be able to keep doing this far more effectively if they are left to decide for themselves how to use their limited resources.

Thankyou.

Sincerely

Vivien Smith