



## **Australian Government**

Australian Government response to the  
Senate Committee Economics report:

Treasury Laws Amendment (Tax Accountability and  
Fairness) Bill 2023

June, 2026



## Coalition Senators' Dissenting Report - Recommendation 3

### *Australian Government response*

The Government **notes** this recommendation.

Parliament passed the Government's package of Environment Protection Reform Bills in November 2025. The package included key measures to speed up decision making for business and improve outcomes for the community, including:

- A new Streamlined Assessment Pathway, to reduce the timeframe for decisions when proponents provide sufficient information upfront, providing incentive to consider new National Environmental Standards and other requirements early in the process.
- updated arrangements for bilateral agreements with states and territories, which can remove the need for duplicative environmental assessment and approval of projects.
- Bioregional planning, to deliver 'go' and 'no go' zones, ensuring greater certainty for business, and future planning at a landscape scale, reducing the need for project-by-project assessment.
- Clarifying the definition of "unacceptable impacts" to help proponents avoid planning projects that cannot be approved.
- Introducing restoration contributions to improve offsetting of residual significant impacts and speed up approvals.

The package also included a number of environment protection measures, including:

- Establishing the National Environment Protection Agency (National EPA) – a strong, independent regulator with a clear focus on ensuring better compliance with and stronger enforcement of Australia's new environmental laws.
- More regular reporting on the state of the environment.
- National Environmental Standards, to ensure clear, strong guidelines to protect the environment.
- Higher penalties for the most significant breaches of environmental law, as well as environment protection orders for use in urgent circumstances to prevent and respond to major contraventions of the law.
- Ending exemptions from the EPBC Act for certain land clearing activities and regional forest agreements, so that they comply with the same rules and standards as other industries.
- Requiring proponents of large emitting projects to disclose their greenhouse gas emissions and their emission reduction plans.

The Government is delivering reforms that ensure sustainability and environmental protection whilst enabling productivity growth, and investment in Australian industry.

## Australian Greens' Dissenting Report - Recommendation 2

### *Australian Government response*

The Government rejects the premise of this recommendation.

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