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**Tax Deductible Gift Recipient
Reform Opportunities Discussion Paper June 2017**

I am writing on behalf of Friends of Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, a not for profit community based organisation. For the past thirty years Friends has worked collaboratively with Eurobodalla Shire Council to increase community awareness of the recreational, educational and conservation value of the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens.

As a small community based organisation we welcome the proposal to reduce red tape and streamline reporting requirements. We are already registered as a charity and find the information and support that ACNC provides to be helpful.

Friends is in the process of seeking Deductible Gift Recipient status through the Register of Environmental Organisations. We understand this can be a lengthy process.

The Discussion Paper recommends transferring administration of the Register to ACNC and how processing of application for DGR status would operate once this has occurred. The Paper is, however, silent on the matter of how applicants part way through the process managed by one of the four Registers would be dealt with. In terms of ensuring any transition period is managed well, we would suggest the endorsement process be expedited and managed to completion by the Register (within a specified timeframe) before transferring responsibility to ACNC.

Yours sincerely

Peter Hickman
President
11 July 2017