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**Subject:** Tax Deductible Gift Recipient Paper  
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To the Senior Adviser

I make the following submission to the Tax Deductible Gift Recipient Reform Opportunities Discussion Paper:

1. The value of environmental groups to the environment and to Australia generally is immeasurable. Without them, Australia would almost certainly have lost many of its natural icons which are so valued by Australians and the world at large. And of course, are the source of much foreign tourist revenue!
2. I belong to or am a supporter of a number of environmental groups and strongly support their right to continue to use their funds to advocate for the protection of the environment.
3. I see this so called discussion paper as nothing more than an opportunity to strip environmental groups of much of their power to advocate for the environment. I do not believe that there is any **public** call for any change in the way that such groups operate.
4. The type of non-violent protest invariably used by environmental groups in their campaigns is one of the cornerstones of democracy. At a time when the population is generally disengaged from the political process, any participation by the voters is surely to be encouraged.
5. I may be cynical but it seems to me that this discussion paper is nothing short of a response by the government to the pressure of the fossil fuel and other powerful lobbyists.

Aileen Jacob

