From: lorraine metcalfe

To: DGR Inbox

**Subject:** Treasury Discussion Paper re Environmental Charities

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I strongly oppose any new restrictions or limitations on the decisions made by an environmental organization with respect to the best way to achieve the environmental outcomes of a charitable environmental organization.

When advocacy is a concern, and it is proposed to limit this voice, this sounds like a restriction of freedom of speech. The community expects environmental groups to be strong advocates for beneficial outcomes, and the prevention of damage from happening in the first place. Advocacy for beneficial outcomes can be the most efficient expenditure compared to the cost of repairing future environmental damage.

Some major environmental problems like climate change, can't be stopped through on-the-ground environmental remediation, and this work often needs supporting policies or funding from government, which may arise as a result of advocacy. (The barely visible results of the Green Army could do with some advocacy, or has that advocacy already been limited?)

Don't impose any further restrictions on charitable environment organizations.

Lorraine Metcalfe