

From: [Jonathan Smith](#)
To: [DGR Inbox](#)
Subject: charitable donations
Date: Friday, 4 August 2017 8:44:59 AM

Dear Treasury,

Each year I donate around 5% of my income to a range of charities, including environmental bodies.

I do so not to disrupt society but to help improve policy and outcomes for our environment.

In a democracy, governments are supposed to listen to a range of views and make dispassionate decisions that are in the nation's best interest.

Sadly, all too often, short-term thinking linked with perceived financial benefit takes precedence.

I want my hard earned money to be directed at things like public education, discussion forums, research, policy development, lobbying, advocacy, support for communities under threat of harmful development etc. etc.

As a Landcare volunteer for 25 years I have planted thousands of trees on degraded public open space, but ultimately all this good work can be undone at policy level with the stroke of a pen.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Smith
Biologist



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