From: Linda Wilson
To: DGR Inbox

Subject: Maintain DGR status of environment groups.

Date: Wednesday, 19 July 2017 8:06:30 PM

I wish to make a submission regarding the consultation paper which proposes potential reforms to Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) tax arrangements.

I have donated to environmental groups for decades. I do this because these groups manage to achieve improvements to the environment which the government is unwilling to undertake.

Without them our world would be a very different place.

This proposal is an obvious attack on the success that environmental groups are having. These successes do not align with government policy and are therefore being unfairly targeted. To demand that groups like Market Forces perform a percentage of environmental remediation is ridiculous. Market Forces has a specific focus which directly targets financial institutions that have potentially huge negative impacts on the environment when they fund projects like the proposed Adani mine etc.

This proposal is an insult to thousands of Australian who care deeply about the environment and give what they can to organisations that work on tiny budgets and achieve many little victories. Our support gives us hope that there may be a healthy future for our world.

We have faith in the power of people caring about their world.

The fact that my donations are tax deductible has nothing to do with me donating. It does not encourage me at all.

It is the integrity, purpose and value of the organisation that motivates me.

I would expect that if certain organisations were stripped of their tax deductable status, the public would respond to this by increasing their financial support.

I definitely would.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate my belief that environmental DGRs are already subject to significant regulatory burden. Many of the issues raised in the discussion paper relate to increasing scrutiny, regulation and sanctions for these organisations, which is completely unjustified.

Organisations working on remediation, education, advocacy and other areas are all vitally important to protecting and enhancing our natural environment. Their activities must not be unnecessarily restricted or unfairly burdened.

Sincerely

Linda Wilson