From:

To: <u>Committee, Environment (REPS)</u>

Subject: Submission: Inquiry into Flying Fox Management in the Eastern States

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SUBMISSION: Flying Fox Management in the Eastern States

A rushed inquiry, such as this, into flying fox management and the downgrading of its 'vulnerable' status is absurd. Scientific studies are required in order to make an *informed* decision.

Making an uninformed decision would have disastrous consequences, not only for the flying foxes, but for the pollination of a range of flora species — be they endangered or not. I presume this inquiry is the result of the impact flying fox colonies have on populated areas. As such, it must be understood that this impact is occurring due to flying fox habitat loss — the main reason they were listed as 'vulnerable' in the first place(as well as being essential to the pollination of ecosystems and environmental biodiversity).

Any 'Management System' must give priority consideration to the welfare of the flying foxes, their role in the environment and habitat security – not their inconvenience to humans. It is us who have caused the 'problem'.

The more we more we intrude on the natural environment, the more problems we cause to our native species and ourselves.

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