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## Healesville Environment Watch Inc.

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April 13 2011

The House Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and the Arts Australian Parliament

Canberra ACT

RE: Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Bill 2011

Our members wish to support the proposal by Professor Ross Garnaut in his recent Climate Change Review update paper on 'Transforming Rural Land Use' which recommended that the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through a carbon price be accompanied by complementary measures.

In particular, we urge you to include incentives for building the resilience of ecosystems and biodiversity to the impacts of climate change by creating a substantial Biodiversity and Climate fund for the protection and restoration of Australia's terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

The conservation of our natural ecosystems will not only reduce greenhouse gases that are currently being increased by clear felling practices of our indigenous forests and bushland but will ensure carbon sequestration for the future as the effects of climate change become amplified.

Thank you for consideration of our submission to your Inquiry

Yours sincerely

Maureen Bond Secretary Healesville Environment Watch

CC:

The Hon Greg Combet AM, Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

The Hon Greg Hunt, Member for Flinders, Shadow Minister for Climate Change Environment and Heritage

Mr Rob Mitchell, Member for McEwen