

**SUMMARY SUBMISSION INTO THE REGISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS May 21<sup>st</sup> 2015.**

**From John W Barnes**

Dear Sir/Madame,

I have not been able to complete all the research into my submission nor the references to the [http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/53ca6702-48ad-414a-bf24-60e253d5ad0d/files/reo-guide-2003\\_0.pdf](http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/pages/53ca6702-48ad-414a-bf24-60e253d5ad0d/files/reo-guide-2003_0.pdf) to the enquiry (I hope to finalize next week), however this is a summary of the key points. My submission is aimed at "The Register and its effectiveness in supporting communities to take practical action to improve the environment" in that their tax free status is deceitfully being used not to improve the environment, rather destroying Australia's capacity for economic development.

In particular point 3; "activities undertaken by organizations currently listed on the Register and the extent to which these activities involve on-ground environmental works" is to be referenced by this submission.

This request for submissions to inquire into/report on the Register of Environmental Organizations is long overdue. I am a retired Chemical engineer living on the shores of the Great Barrier Reef some 20 km from the Abbott Point Coal Export Terminal established in the mid 80's, for the past 9 years.

By way of background, in 2008, I was asked by the QLD Labor Government to participate in the Bowen Abbott Point Community Consultation a Group looking at an expansion from 25mtpa of coal to 50mtpa (and over 10 years to upwards of 200mtpa) along with attracting industrial investment to the 30,000ha State Development Area, which included the coal terminal and a multi cargo port. I was also part of the community consultation group looking at the potential CHALCO (Chinese Aluminum group) at the same time. As a member of the local LIONS group and various sporting clubs (I have a 12 year old son representing NQ), I was active inviting Green group representatives to debate & participate in the economic development opportunities and ensure sustainable environmental development, as I did in General management roles in Australia and UK, USA & China during my career in Global organizations.

However I have become increasingly disillusioned at the deceit and duplicitous behavior of Green groups particularly the campaign to "Stop Coal", based on the CO2 emissions and supposed impact on Global warming (more about that later). In 2011 I became aware of a secret strategic document written by GREENPEACE and developed with significant assistance by Graeme Wood (WOTIF), GETUP, MACKAY CONSERVATION GROUP and ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS QLD OFFICE & many others listed on page 2 of the document. [http://www.abc.net.au/mediawatch/transcripts/1206\\_greenpeace.pdf](http://www.abc.net.au/mediawatch/transcripts/1206_greenpeace.pdf)

At first I didn't pay too much attention to this but when GREENPEACE, GETUP and other GREEN groups began using photos and videos of sand dredging from the middle-east island construction & elsewhere spewing sand and mud superimposed over the Great Barrier Reef (GBR), requesting donations to "save the reef" and watching their \$ counters proudly record donations from all over the world (they reached a \$m in less than a few days), I became every angry. This donation campaign continued unabated over the next 4 years using the "save the reef" as a Trojan horse to dupe the public to amass a huge warhorse.

In Bowen a very concerned group of people started a FB page which included facts & myths about this campaign to "save the reef" and quickly attracted in excess of 2,600 supporters, per <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AbbotPointExpansionSupporters/>.

During this period I (along with the Bowen Tourism group Chairman Paul McLoughlin) invited Dr Brett Kettle and Dr Alison Jones as well respected scientists on coral reefs to talk to the community on what were the real threats to the GBR. Soon after Dr Kettle set up the Reef CSI per <https://www.facebook.com/ReefCSI?fref=ts>

Reference their articles and the myths & facts of dredging FB site and you will see this campaign

<https://www.facebook.com/AbbotPointDredgingMythsandFacts/timeline>

Few of the public have any idea what they have accumulated. Public records for 2013-14 show that Greenpeace accumulated \$20,173,271, GETUP \$7,543,453, WWF Australia \$29,844,610 and Australian Marine conservation Society \$1,019,543 tax free donations. These amazingly successful campaigns by GREENPEACE, GETUP and related Greens organizations, use this huge war chest to employ media/legal support to support this Stop Coal strategy. I find this strategy insidious and extremely deceitful.

*Millions of publicly sourced tax free \$'s paid to lawyers and media propaganda representatives used to delay BILLIONS of \$'s of coal investment, will ultimately scuttle these developments with spurious legal arguments extending the ability of the investors to recover their sunk capital with delayed sales.*

*The Whitsunday region, particularly Bowen's development has been indirectly decimated by actions of green group's influence (enjoying tax free status). Many don't realize the culprits behind this slow death impacting many of 50+businesss now gone from Bowen are the hugely wealthy and ideological motivated Green groups that through the networks acknowledged in the aforementioned "Stop Coal" document, have cynically delayed the investment by Coal companies such as ADANI and GVK.*

*Digressing, the attack on Coal is just as misguided as the duplicitous "Trojan Horse-save the reef" campaign. Trained as a chemical engineer with a 30yr heat transfer management career, I acknowledge an impact of CO2 until 1998 on global warming (GW). Yet the GW issue driving current Green campaigns neglects the 16 year pause in these higher temperatures, during unabated increases in CO2 from Coal since. This contradicts ALL the Al Gore inspired UN IPCC alarmist computer model predictions.*

*1 billion Chinese/Indians don't enjoy our secure 70%+ coal fired electrical supply. I'd like to see every green alarmist not only lose their tax free status but also lose their "coal-fired-electricity".*

*Perhaps then this selfish ideology would stop. I DOUBT IT THOUGH.*

*However reverting back to the key reference point above, I cannot see how Millions of \$'s of public tax free donations used to "STOP COAL" can EVER be justified under the a Commonwealth Tax Deductibility Scheme when it clearly says on page 3 **their strategy is to "disrupt and delay" key projects whilst eroding public and political support for the (Coal) industry.** This they have done with tax free money already.*

*This is so blatant and has nothing to do with "activities involving on ground environmental works".*

***This House of reps standing committee MUST use the STOP COAL strategy document and the evidence of delays to ADANI & GVK coal mines, rail and port development investment as exhibit A as evidence to STOP TAX FREE DEDUCTIBILITY to these deceitful Green Groups listed in the document.***

***[http://www.abc.net.au/mediawatch/transcripts/1206\\_greenpeace.pdf](http://www.abc.net.au/mediawatch/transcripts/1206_greenpeace.pdf)***

*To be continued.....*

Yours sincerely

John W Barnes