

The reasons that I am against the Vegetation Act and ETS are:

- 1: I look back a little over twelve months and recall the lives lost or shattered by the Victorian bush fires. The Victorian fires could be just the beginning of many more tragedies if good sense does not prevail, property owners should have the right to clear surrounding land sufficiently to remove or significantly reduce the fire hazard.
- 2: I have listened to talk back radio and heard many heart-ache stories from farmers not being allowed to earn a living from their land due to unprecedented NSW Government interpretation and adherence to the Act to such an extent the farmers commit suicide.
- 3: There seems to me a hidden agenda concerning property rights that is forcing land owners into financial hardship and then off the land; ending many generations of successful farming.
- 4: Government Departments are hypocritical in enforcing the Act and other legislation upon individuals whilst not complying themselves, citing budgetary restraints and low priority as reasons for non compliance; or have the audacity to ignore the request for a reasonable explanation for non-compliance.
- 5: Property owners pay for fencing, land tax and council rates and are denied land use entitlements as when the property was purchased.
- 6: Mining companies clear their mining leases completely (the latest being the Liverpool plains, 360 square kilometres) with impunity.
- 7: I find it absolutely despicable that a Government Department would allow 99 year perpetual land leases without the lease holder being informed prior to signing of the restrictions to be imposed upon the land removing the ability to earn a living; effectively bankrupting the lease holder.

If the Act cannot easily be amended or repealed, I ask that fair and just compensation be paid for the affected land that will be used by the Federal Government as Carbon Sinks for their Carbon Emissions Trading Scheme. When I ask for fair and just compensation this will include land improvements, any business turnover per annum averaging. If this is unacceptable to the Government; remove the Act and restrictions.

I personally have been affected by the rezoning of my property I refer to the Valuer General's adjustment to my land value; the 2004 Valuer General's office assessment, I received, was for \$370,000.00 and when an objection was made due to land use restrictions associated with 7(1) zoning it was reduced to \$300,000.00. As the State Government acknowledges the land use restriction as a valid objection; and since 2004, more of my land has been rezoned 7(1), it becomes apparent to me, as I hope it does to you that I should be compensated fairly and justly; but has not been forthcoming.

As for the ETS which I firmly believe is a lot of nonsense and as Tony Abbott has stated, "It will be a big drag on the economy". The trees are growing in Australia now and more trees could be planted. No-one has been able to tell me how the world's carbon dioxide emissions will be reduced when the world's population and standard of living is due to increase; requiring more energy. More coal is due to be mined and burnt than in the past. No tax will stop the emissions from entering the atmosphere; 1+1 must equal 2.

Thank you.