

Submission to:

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

about

Native Vegetation Laws, Greenhouse Gas Abatement and
Climate Change Measures

Diminution of the value of farm properties will become a serious matter:

- farm properties with larger areas of native veg. will seriously lose value as these areas cannot be used for productive farming.
- farm productivity will remain as it is at present even though the Australian population increases.
- farm properties with a large proportion of cleared land will quickly become more valuable as pasture and cropping acreage will be limited.

Compensation to landholders must be an ongoing thing:

- to give a one-off compensation will leave the farmer with a seriously reduced income in future years.
- the reduced land area available will mean that a farmer must sell that property and, together with a one-off compensation payment, attempt to buy a larger and more expensive farm in order to remain viable.

A method of calculation of asset value must include:

- a formula with land value per hectare, number of hectares for compensation, estimated annual loss of income for this portion.
- the farmer should be consulted re whether he wishes to move to another property in order to continue to make the same, or better income.

Landholders in urban areas should be included in the scheme:

- farmers must not be the only property owners to be deprived of fully using their land.
- residents in urban areas are unaware that if farmers cannot make land with native vegetation available to earn income then urban property owners should not be permitted to clean up their properties.
- pruning of overgrown shrubs, all tree trimmings, grass clippings, weeds removed etc., are all equal to the removal of trees, suckers and native grasses by the farmer!

Discrimination against rural property owners:

- why are urban and rural Australians being treated differently?
- surely we are talking about greenhouse gas abatement everywhere here?
- residents in urban areas are unaware that there is the potential with this legislation that many farmer will be unable (or unwilling) to go on.
- the value of urban houses will continue to go up as the value of many farm properties will go down.

YOU CANNOT GO AHEAD WITH THESE LAWS.

THERE WILL BE UPHEAVAL AND MAYHEM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

THE FARMING COMMUNITY WILL BE EVEN MORE ANGRY THAN THEY ARE NOW.

URBAN PEOPLE WILL BECOME ANGRY THAT THEY WERE NOT CONSULTED WHEN THEY ARE OFFERED COMPENSATION JUST AS THE FARMERS ARE OFFERED COMPENSATION.

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Design of houses that are to be built from now on must be radically altered.

- many houses are built nowadays in urban areas with virtually no eaves. This will make a huge difference to the summer temperature inside the house.
- wide eaves with a good overhang shade the walls of a house and reduce the need to run an air conditioner in summer.
- use of air conditioners should be banned between certain hours except in cases of illness.
- the building of houses with very small or no windows facing west must be encouraged.
- double brick homes with a cavity wall on the outside should be actively encouraged with financial rewards to those who brick up the outside of their homes and remove air cons.
- financial rewards offered to people who do other alterations to their houses to make them less susceptible to the use of air con.
- the price of air conditioners should have a high prohibitive tax added to their purchase price.

PEOPLE MUST BE ACTIVELY ENCOURAGED TO MAKE THEIR HOUSES MORE “POWER PROOF”

CITY BUILDINGS AND HOMES MUST BE ENCOURAGED TO RETURN TO THE USE OF CURTAINS TO INCREASE INSULATION.

THE FLAGRANT USE OF ELECTRICITY IN THE LIGHTING OF BUILDINGS THROUGH THE NIGHT MUST BE STOPPED.

COMMERCIAL COMPANIES WHICH ARE HEAVY ELECTRICITY USERS MUST BE ENCOURAGED TO LOOK AT WAYS OF REDUCING THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

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All of the above suggested measures are within Australia as this country is known to be very high users of electricity per head of population.

In order to consider greenhouse gas abatement we should not continue to send so much coal overseas so that other countries will burn it and continue to produce so much Greenhouse Gas. This gas is a world wide phenomena and I feel that this is a very hypocritical attitude. On the one hand we happily sent thousands of tonnes of coal away to be burned elsewhere whilst at the same time talk about Greenhouse Gas abatement.

Authorities in Australia turn a blind eye to the fact that coal burned in other countries will affect us all. We should be helping those other countries to look for other ways of producing power and energy rather than produce so much Greenhouse Gas for our atmosphere.

Australia produces less than 5% of the worlds Greenhouse Gas and whatever measures we take here will have little affect upon world wide levels.

It will be criminal to penalise farmers via native vegetation laws when it is the other countries of the world that are doing most of the greenhouse gas production!!

If these laws do eventuate I seriously believe that there will be considerable social unrest as a result.