

Submission to House of Representatives Standing
Committee on the Environment Inquiry into the
Register of Environmental Organisations

May 2015

SENATOR
MATTHEW
CANAVAN



MATTHEW CANAVAN
SENATOR FOR QUEENSLAND

34 East St (PO Box 737)
Rockhampton Qld 4700
Phone (07) 4927 2003
Fax (07) 4927 2004

Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Phone (02) 6277 3218
Fax (02) 6277 5716

email: senator.canavan@aph.gov.au
web: www.mattcanavan.com.au

Key findings

- Environmental organisations receive substantial benefits from tax deductible gift status. A sample of just over 100 of these organisations collectively received around \$106 million in donations in 2014.
- All organisations and individuals have the right to freely express their views but there is no right to receive a tax deduction to help spread those views.
 - Some argue that registered environmental organisations have an unrestrained right to engage in political debate. This confuses the requirements of the *Charities Act* with those of the Register of Environmental Organisations.
 - Arguments that more stringent requirements on registered organisations would amount to an “attack on democracy” are wrong-headed. Democratic rights do not extend to requiring taxpayers to unwittingly fund political debate and activity. Free speech does not necessitate free funding.
- Registered environmental organisations are becoming increasingly politicised. During recent state elections some organisations called for tax deductible donations to fund ‘doorknockers’ targeting marginal seats.
- While most environmental organisations are focused on practical environmental work, among a sizeable minority there exists an endemic culture of politicisation, protests, and for some, flagrant lawbreaking to further political aims.
 - Not all of these organisations are opposed to mines. Many are opposed to agriculture, fishing, tourism, urban development, ports, dams and roads.
- More than 80 per cent of this group have either promoted or been involved in protests and demonstrations, and one half support divestment initiatives or legal action against certain developments.
- Around 12 per cent of organisations were involved in unlawful activities of some form. Some organisations boast of their breaking of the law and ask for tax deductible donations to pay the fines and penalties that are imposed for unlawful acts.
- The government should commission an audit of organisations that appear to engage in such activities because organisations should not receive unconstrained tax deductions to help them break the law or engage in highly politicised campaigning.
- The government should issue guidelines to clarify the meaning of the “principal purpose” test. These guidelines should draw on overseas experience and should:
 - include a list of activities that are permissible and those that are not, with special focus on what is permissible under the information, education or research purpose test; and
 - prohibit premeditated, material or significant unlawful activities, the soliciting of donations to pay for fines, the making of demonstrably misleading statements and supporting or opposing political parties or candidates.
- Registered organisations should provide more information on an annual basis including financial statements, what they have done to meet the principal purpose test and criminal charges or convictions against staff or volunteers.
- A small fee should be charged to large registered organisations to help fund greater monitoring and enforcement activities.

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Introduction

I welcome the opportunity to provide a submission to the House of Representatives Inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations ('the Register'). The inquiry is timely given the extensive public debate about the appropriate role for non-government environmental organisations whose activities are subsidised by the Australian taxpayer via the Register.

It is appropriate that organisations and individuals may protest against political parties, philosophies and activities that offend them. It is not appropriate that such protests are funded by concessions from taxpayers who do not share their views. The right of environmental organisations or individuals to protest, or to be politically active, is not in dispute. What is in dispute is the extent to which such activity should be undertaken by groups on the Register, and whether the broader community should involuntarily fund those activities (through foregoing tax income).

The provision of tax deductible status to organisations on the Register is to encourage taxpayer support for positive environmental outcomes. How organisations achieve these outcomes, and the effectiveness of the Register in delivering positive environmental outcomes, is legitimate interest to taxpayers and policy makers alike.

This submission addresses the following elements of the terms of reference:

- activities undertaken by organisations currently listed on the Register and the extent to which these activities involve on-ground environmental works;
- reporting requirements for organisations to disclose donations and activities funded by donations;
- definitions under the Act; and
- regulatory regimes in other jurisdictions.

In addressing these terms of reference, I have conducted an audit of a subset of organisations on the Register. The evidence, while preliminary and high-level, is sufficient to suggest that the majority of organisations on the Register are focused on practical initiatives directed at 'on-the-ground' improvements. However, among a sizeable minority there exists an endemic culture of politicisation, protests, and for some, flagrant lawbreaking to further political aims.

The submission has four main sections. Section 1 discusses the issue of public trust as it relates to organisations granted tax deductible status. Section 2 highlights the role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the democratic process. Section 3 provides some of the key findings from the audit and section 4 draws some conclusions and recommendations. The coverage, methodology and more detailed

results of the audit are provided in Appendix A. More detailed data are provided in an attached data annex.

1 Public trust

The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) 2013 survey *Public trust and confidence in Australian charities* found:

Charities' activities are the most important driver of trust. Respondents were most likely to trust charities when they believe that the charity is acting in the public interest, ensures its fundraisers are honest, creates a benefit for the cause it is working for, manages its resources both efficiently and ethically, and is open about how it uses its resources.

Organisations with tax deductible status enjoy higher levels of public trust, not least because it is assumed that governments have mechanisms in place to ensure their compliance with regulatory requirements.¹ Adequate oversight is essential to maintaining trust, as is the collection and publication of sound data on the activities of groups that receive taxpayer support. Ensuring that prescribed rules are applied in the process of granting organisations entry to the Register is equally important.

Concerns about the lack of transparency and political, sometimes unlawful behaviour, conducted or encouraged by groups on the Register have been growing (see for example: McHugh 2015, Johns 2014, Sloan 2014, Ward 2012, Ferguson 2012). While there is no shortage of specific examples, evidence is lacking on the extent to which these are symptomatic of wider problems, and if so, to what degree.

There is a separate question as to how much political activity undertaken by Australian charities of all types is appropriate. Some have used a 2010 High Court decision, which found that charities could engage in political activities, to argue there is also scope for organisations on the Register to do so. For example, Senator Siewert has stated that:

Senator Canavan and his colleagues are either ignorant of or more likely choose to ignore the High Court ruling that groups with tax deductibility status have a right to advocate and engage in political debate. Further, the *Charities Act 2013* includes advocacy as a lawful activity of a charity. (Siewert 2015)

This fundamentally misinterprets the requirements set out in the *Income Tax Assessment Act* for organisations on the Register, and therefore misapplies the

1 As one respondent to the ACNC survey stated: "I imagine they have to follow certain rules; that the government would have rules they need to follow to get tax exemptions." (ACNC 2013)

findings from the AidWatch case. The AidWatch case focused around whether an organisation registered under the *Charities Act* could engage in political activity, and indeed have as its principal purpose political activity. In comparison, the *Income Tax Assessment Act* clearly states what defines an ‘environmental organisation’ — “the environmental purpose must be the organisation’s principal purpose” (Box 1).

Requirements for entry on the Register are clear and well defined and are separate to the requirements for registration under the *Charities Act*. Organisations can retain their charitable status even if they object to any requirements placed on them by being members of the Register of Environmental Organisations. (It should be noted, however, that organisations registered under the *Charities Act* are not allowed open slather on political debate because ‘promoting or opposing a political party or a candidate for political office’ amounts to a disqualifying purpose under that Act.)

Box 1	Requirements of organisations on the Register
<p>Section 30-265(1) of the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i> states that the principal purpose of all organisations represented on the Register must be either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the protection and enhancement of the natural environment or of a significant aspect of the natural environment, or • the provision of information or education, or the carrying on of research, about the natural environment or a significant aspect of the natural environment. <p>The environmental purpose must be the organisation’s principal purpose (see section 30-265(1) of the ITAA).</p>	

There is a spectrum of activities that environmental organisations can engage in, ranging from practical initiatives such as tree planting, land rehabilitation and wildlife preservation to education and research to support the natural environment. Such activities can be traced back to the roots of the environmental movement, including the landcare movement, in Australia, and are legitimate activities for the purposes of maintaining deductible gift status on the Register.²

However, the roots of Australia’s environmental movement are also strongly tied to opposition to economic developments of various kinds (Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network 2014). Problems arise when organisations on the Register undertake these activities under the aegis of the “provision of information or education” purpose. Some of the recent advocacy for the Great Barrier Reef, for example, has taken this approach. As the previous chairman of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Ian McPhail, has noted environment groups “tend to cite

2 ABS data on community engagement with nature found that of those who undertook voluntary work for a nature conservation organisation, 78.2% did so to care for land or bush, 39.6% were supporting or caring for wildlife, and 41.7% were engaged in other activities, defined as including “community education, training, advocacy or research, fundraising, administration or office work and did not know” (ABS 2013).

science, opinion and the elusive precautionary principle to justify a total opposition to any new port works or other industry expansion (McPhail 2014).”³ Where political advocacy becomes a substantial or sole activity of an organisation, the integrity of the Register is weakened as is public trust in it.

2 Environmental organisations and the public good

Some have argued that any moves to greater scrutiny of the activities of organisations on the Register amount to an attempt to silence free speech and weaken Australia’s healthy civil society and even constitute “an attack on democracy.”⁴

Such claims are wrong on a number of levels. Freedom to engage in political activism, including non-violent and lawful protest actions, is a well-established feature of Australia’s democratic and civil society. That said, democratic rights do not extend to requiring taxpayers to unwittingly fund political debate and activity. Free speech does not necessitate free funding.⁵ The fact that substantial numbers of organisations in receipt of deductible gift status — granted for the explicit purpose of assisting the natural environment — engage in political activism raises legitimate questions about the impacts of these activities on democratic processes.

The politicisation of registered organisations is substantial and ongoing. For example, during the last Victorian election, peak environment group Environment Victoria ran a campaign calculated to directly impact the result of the election.⁶

The group’s website called for tax deductible donations to support over 800 trained volunteers including hundreds of ‘doorknockers’ targeting marginal seats. It also sought donations to pay for billboards, online and newspaper advertising, a dedicated shopfront, the commissioning of research around economic policy options in relation to election issues, and the provision of training to undertake similar actions (Environment Victoria 2015).⁷

3 See also: Lloyd (2015), Reichelt (2014), Sun-coast Business Consultants (2015), and NQBP (2014).

4 See for example Aston (2015), Staples (2014), Siewert (2015), and Waters (2015).

5 Political parties are not deductible gift recipients. Tax deductible donations to political parties are capped at \$1500 per person per year. In contrast, there are no caps on tax deductions for donations made to organisations on the Register.

6 The strategy was modelled on an approach that has been used effectively overseas, after an Environment Victoria “climate campaigner” was placed with the Sierra Club, a 2.4 million member strong group in the United States (Green 2014).

7 Charities in Australia are permitted to pursue purposes that include distributing information, or advancing debate, about the policies of political parties or candidates for political office - such as by assessing, critiquing, comparing or ranking those policies. (Charities Act 2013). But, as noted above, the *Charities Act 2013* states that such activities become a disqualifying purpose where they amount to ‘promoting or opposing a political party or a candidate for political office’.

As the website *The Guardian* reported at the time:

Environment Victoria opened a shopfront in the seat of Frankston in June to campaign in four marginal electorates, will spend \$100,000 on advertising, and has encouraged 4,000 people in key areas to “pledge” to vote for the environment. (Alcorn 2014)

This article also reported that this action was part of a broader campaign by a number of separate environmental organisations on the Register:

Environment Victoria, the Wilderness Society, Friends of the Earth and the Victorian National Parks Association are combining resources to target marginal seats before the 29 November election. (Alcorn 2014)

It is not clear how the targeting of marginal seats during an election campaign is consistent with the principal purpose of an organisation to be about improving the natural environment. The Committee could usefully ask these organisations exactly what actions they took during the recent Victorian election campaign, and how that action was funded.

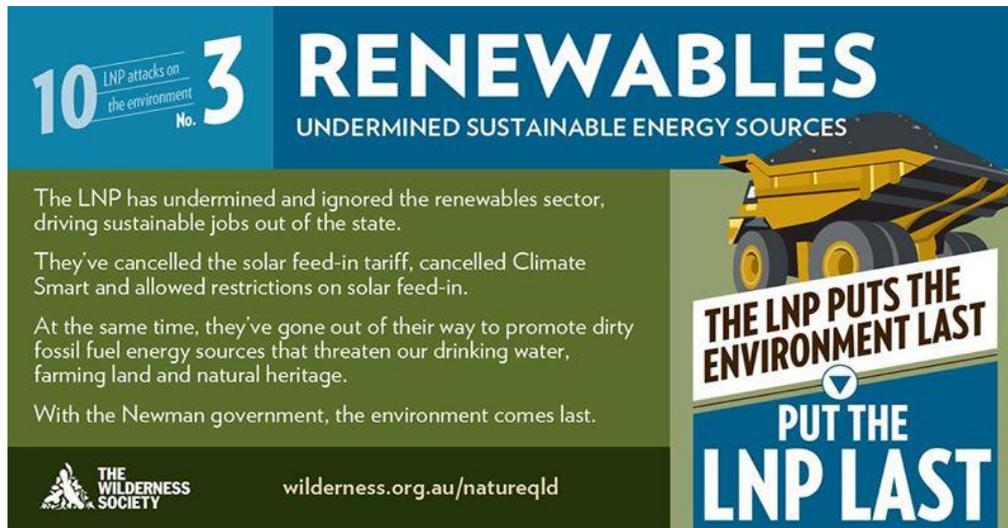
Environment Victoria’s election campaign illustrates the extent to which political purposes and activities are undertaken by some of the organisations on the Register.

There are other examples of groups on the Register campaigning in recent state elections, for example:

- Lock the Gate, who conducted a doorknocking campaign in the recent NSW state election (Lock the Gate Alliance 2015);
- Mackay Conservation Society who stepped up lobbying activities considerably during the recent QLD state election campaign period: “We are averaging about four meetings with candidates a day...” (Marine Conservation Society 2015);
- Cairns and Far North Environment Centre who were one of many groups conducting candidate surveys and leafleting campaigns (CAFNEC 2015);
- WWF who produced a highly publicised scorecard (Hinchliffe 2015); and
- The Wilderness Society, whose campaign material featured the slogan: “Put the LNP last” (see Figure 1 and The Wilderness Society 2015).

It is dangerous to assume that non-government organisations are somehow immune from the exercise and abuse of political power (Ehrenberg 1999; Warren 2001; Johns 2002; Lane 2003; Lane and Morrison 2006). Governments have a responsibility to ensure that taxpayer funds are used appropriately.

Figure 1 Example of election campaigning by an organisation on the Register



Many groups engaging in political activities argue that they have a right to receive taxpayer subsidies as they are acting for the public benefit or the ‘public good’. In its submission to a Treasury inquiry into tax concessions in 2011, Greenpeace stated:

We have blocked train lines, occupied Lucas Heights, trespassed at the Lodge, illegally raised banners at Parliament House, amongst many other activities. These activities have never been for any purpose except the public benefit and in furtherance of our core purposes and values.

These assurances notwithstanding, and without questioning the altruistic motives of members of environmental groups such as these, it cannot be assumed that the actions of environmental organisations will always be for the public good, or that the pursuit of these objectives is democratic. As Lane and Morrison (2006, pp. 233-39) note in their examination of the role of non-governmental organisations in environmental policy and management in Australia:

NGOs are private organisations whose interests and agenda are diverse and not necessarily congruent with the public interest or democratic governance ... the participation of organised civic actors should not be conflated with the participation of individual citizens ... NGO participation is one thing; democracy is another.

Indeed, where some members of society, generally those who can make a public case effectively, and can organise themselves well, receive preferential tax treatment over those who do not, for whatever reason, democratic processes are weakened (Johns 2002).

This raises the question, just who is it that environmental organisations represent? One organisation claimed that: “Collectively these groups represent the interests and

concerns of hundreds of thousands of Australians.” (Environmental Defenders Office Queensland 2015). Such statements raise a number of issues. Lane and Morrison (2006) note in regard to environmental organisations:

Such organisations, or assemblages of such organisations, are often poor proxies of the public interest because they often fail to give expression to the full array of values and opinions (pp. 237-38)

While environmental organisations clearly represent a view of some in the community they do not always reflect all viewpoints, or even the majority viewpoint. This can particularly be the case in regional areas where city-based activist groups can have their views amplified through mainstream media, while the views of locally impacted residents are often overlooked. As Russell Stewart, President of the Narrabri Chamber of Commerce, said recently:

As a member of the Narrabri community, I am frustrated to read Lyndon Schneider of the Wilderness Society purporting to be speaking on behalf of Narrabri when he is neither from Narrabri nor represents the overwhelming sentiment of the broader-community. ... The last thing our community needs now is the ill-informed opinion of an individual we haven't even heard of before, and who doesn't live in or contribute to this close bush community, spreading false information for his own benefits, whatever they may be. (Stewart 2014)

Aboriginal groups are also susceptible to being drowned out by activist organisations. As Wayne Bergmann, the former head of the Kimberley Land Council, said:

They're all gone [environmentalists who opposed a \$40 billion gas plant in the Kimberley] but the region is still in devastation. We've still got the highest suicide rates, the lowest employment (rates). Geoffrey Cousins [Australian Conservation Foundation President from 2014] is still living in his house in Sydney — he hasn't left anything back in our region. (Burrell 2015)

Some argue that the actions of environmental organisations, such as building political support for laws that mandate lower fossil fuel use, or preventing economic development, result in environmental benefits that, while diffuse, are no less tangible than tree planting, wildlife preservation and soil testing. Further, it can also be argued that these environmental benefits outweigh the economic and social costs of the jobs and income that are forgone and are therefore in the 'public good'.

However, whether a new dam, highway, port, urban development or coal mine is likely to be in the public interest is a question that reasonable people can, and often do, disagree on. Resolving such issues is the realm of politics, through Australia's democratic institutions and processes. Our democracy will be poorer where one side

of the debate receives advantages, through tax concessions or other assistance, but the other side does not.

3 Audit of the conduct of environmental organisations

There is ample qualitative evidence that organisations on the Register are engaging in substantial political activity and are using the tax deductible funding they receive to fund that activity. I have conducted an audit of a group of environmental organisations on the Register to establish a more quantitative measure of the size and scope of this behaviour.

Before describing this audit in detail, it is important to recognise that the majority of groups on the Register are focused on practical actions to protect and improve the natural environment. The Nature Conservancy Australia is a good example. They are part of a large, international organisation and they have annual revenue of more than \$15 million. In Australia they primarily direct donations to conservation, and also provide scientific, governance and financial support for key environmental outcomes across Australia and the Pacific (Nature Conservancy 2014). They pursue these goals without disrupting the legitimate business activities of other organisations, and they avoid a campaigning approach to environmental challenges. On the contrary, Nature Conservancy's input in this regard is characterised by balance, so that environmental causes are not approached in isolation from economic and social regional benefits (Nature Conservancy 2015). Other organisations on the Register operate with a similar approach. Indeed, these organisations deserve credit for the tireless work they do in pursuit of environmental outcomes, and many organisations explicitly eschew engaging in political activities of any kind.

However, my analysis indicates that a substantial minority of organisations do not have as their primary purpose protecting the natural environment or providing information, education and research relating to the natural environment.

A preliminary assessment of publicly available material, from the approximately 600 organisations listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations (as at April 2015), was used to divide organisations into those that clearly had, as their primary or sole focus, the undertaking of practical actions to support the natural environment and those that did not. While around 150 organisations fell into the latter category, a lack of data made it impractical to fully investigate some of these organisations. In this report, I have provided information for 108 organisations. These 108 organisations represent a spectrum, with different groups engaging in political activity to differing degrees.

Collectively, based on publically available data, in 2014, these 108 organisations received at least \$106 million in tax deductible donations, as well as at least \$12

million in direct grants from federal, state and local governments. In total, the organisations had revenues of around \$155 million and around 14,000 staff and volunteers.

Nonetheless, these figures are an underestimate because the financial reporting of these organisations, whether in Annual Reports to members or Annual Information Statements to the ACNC, in some cases provides insufficient detail, or otherwise is not available (this is the case for 19 per cent of the organisations in the subset). Annual reporting was generally found to be unsuitable for assessing resource allocation in a meaningful way. Detailed breakdowns of expenditure by activity were generally not provided — with some exceptions — particularly in ways that allowed the identification of the proportion of resources devoted to practical actions undertaken to assist the natural environment.

The lack of transparency around resource allocation is of concern given that many of these organisations appeared to be highly professional operations, with substantial staff and resources at their disposal.

A common characteristic among these organisations was support for political campaigns and actions aimed at impeding economic development of one kind or another. Interestingly, while mining and fossil fuel developments attracted the strongest attacks, opposition was broad based, spanning a wide range of industries and infrastructure — including agriculture, fishing, tourism, urban development, ports, dams and roads — and activities — including ‘growth’, ‘population’, ‘development’ and ‘industrialisation’.⁸

Overall, an examination of the web pages and public statements of the 108 organisations included in the audit revealed 95 per cent opposed mining and fossil fuels. Opposition was not limited to the resource sector. Almost all organisations (92 per cent) opposed non-mining activities of one form or another. Collectively, the industries and activities opposed by the organisations in the sample spanned most of the ANZSIC divisions included in the ABS definition of Australia’s market sector (ABS 2008).

Key mechanisms used to prevent or delay development included (see Figure 2):

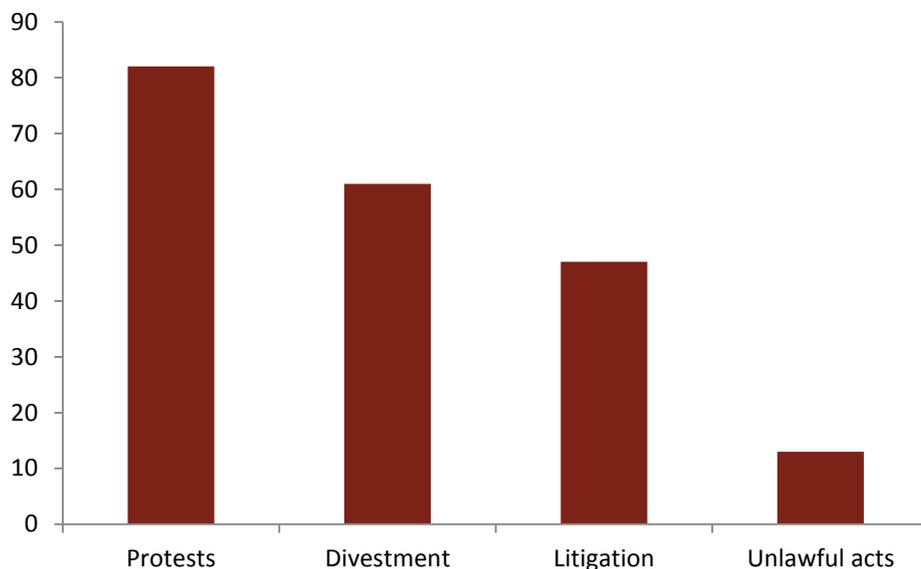
- *Protests* — promoting or supporting public demonstrations and protest actions (four out of five organisations in the sample);

8 The campaign director for the Australian Marine Conservation Society, for example, recently called on the Minister for the Environment Greg Hunt to do more about industrial port expansion, dredging, farm chemical pollution and climate change, asking “Where is the commitment to stopping industrialization?” (Fight for the Reef 2015).

- *Divestment* — promoting or encouraging divestment campaigns (over half organisations in the sample);
- *Litigation* — taking legal action to achieve their objectives (around half the organisations in the sample);
- *Unlawful activities* — a number of organisations were involved in unlawful activities of some form (more than one in ten organisations in the sample).⁹

Detailed examples of industries and activities opposed are included in Table 1 (Appendix A).

Figure 2 **Percentage of sampled environmental organisations engaging in or supporting various activities**



Protests and demonstrations

An examination of the websites and social media pages of the sample of 108 organisations on the Register revealed that 82 per cent supported public demonstrations and protest actions of one form or another.

While in some cases environmental protests were peaceful, there were also a number of instances where protests resulted in unlawful activities, leading to arrests and charges being laid (Box 2). Around 12 per cent of organisations were involved in

⁹ This number is based on a high-level review of arrests and court fines reported in the press or described on organisations' websites/newsletters etc. As it is not based on a systematic assessment of court records it is likely to substantially underestimate the actual frequency of unlawful acts.

unlawful activities of some form, often connected to involvement in protests or demonstrations.

Box 2 **Examples of unlawful activity undertaken by organisations on the Register of Environmental Organisations**

Australian Youth Climate Coalition

In 2014 the ACT coordinator for the Australian Youth Climate Coalition was one of 10 activists charged with trespass after occupying the Australian Minerals Council office in Canberra (Inman 2015).

Blue Mountains Conservation Society & The Colong Foundation for Wilderness

Members of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society and The Colong Foundation for Wilderness organised a blockade to prevent filming in a national park in 2004. Member Robin Mosman describes the experience;

The local folks really enjoyed the blockades – it was very exciting, with people setting up camps on the road, chaining themselves to gates and tripods, being fed by a constant stream of supporters ferrying out food supplies, and solid citizens [...] getting arrested. (Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Experience 2015; No Fibs 2014)

Friends of the Earth Melbourne – Quit Coal

Members of the group Quit Coal — an ‘FoE Collective with’ Friends of the Earth Melbourne — have engaged in civil disobedience. Their website stated that:

When the State Government announces that it will be scrapping carbon emission targets, we respond; staging a die-in and a lock on at Treasury Place. When the State and Federal Governments pledges \$90 million to brown coal expansion, we respond; dropping a banner off Parliament and locking 10 people onto the pillars at the front. When the government continues to give millions of dollars of subsidies to polluting power station, we respond; occupying the cooling towers of Yallourn Power Station for 24 hours. (Quit Coal 2015)

Court proceedings for the Yallourn Power Station action revealed that the Yallourn Power Station operator EnergyAustralia sought restitution of more than \$33,000 for costs involved in ensuring the protesters' safety, including a number of cranes, fire and rescue staff, industrial nurses, security services and barricading. Emergency services including Victoria Police, the Country Fire Authority and Ambulance Victoria were also in attendance. The court also heard concerns were raised by EnergyAustralia about the integrity of the climbing equipment (Hannam 2013).

Friends of the Earth Australia

Other “collectives” with Friends of the Earth (FoE) engage in similar illegal, sometimes dangerous actions. The Brisbane based FoE project “Six Degrees” has frequently made headlines. In 2011 Derec Davies hung a banner and locked himself to a Gladstone port corporation dredge with a bicycle u-lock. He was cut free and taken into custody with charges carrying a total maximum penalty of \$74,000 or one years imprisonment (Sixdegrees 2015a).

When members of the same FoE collective trespassed at a New Hope coal mine in Queensland, climbing to the top of a coal stockpile to hang their banner, the New Hope Group's Chief Operating Officer said in a statement:

We respect the right of anyone to voice their opinion but there are appropriate ways of doing this ...These people placed themselves in a potentially very dangerous position unnecessarily and also risked the safety of our staff at the site by their actions.” (Mining Australia 2012)

The protesters called for donations to pay for their fines (Sixdegrees 2015b).

Greenpeace

In 2011 members of Greenpeace scaled the 1.8 metre fences of a CSIRO facility and destroyed a genetically modified trial wheat crop with whipper snippers. Greenpeace used a video the activists made of the destruction for publicity purposes. Greenpeace was fined \$280,000 and the two members given (suspended) jail sentences (Andrews 2015).

In 2009, coal exports at Hay Point were shut down for two days by Greenpeace protesters who locked themselves to the top of a coal terminal 50 metres above the ground for 36 hours. The protest is said to have cost the mining industry \$20 million (Mining Australia 2013).

Greenpeace CEO David Ritter recently explicitly endorsed illegal action targeting coal exports, claiming:

The proposed expansion of the thermal coal industry in Australia calls for civil disobedience because of the scale and immediacy of the threat and the absence of action to address the danger. (Ritter 2015)

Lock the Gate

At Maules Creek, where Lock the Gate members and alliance groups have campaigned to prevent new and expanded open cut coal mines, over 300 activists were arrested and charged in a twelve month period. The Narrabri court recently issued fines for as much as \$7750 for actions that included lock-ons to bulldozers and gates, and activists suspending themselves from trees (*The Courier* 2015). The registered group has accepted tax deductible donations to fund the blockade.

Funding and “direct action” training

Protest actions involving hundreds of arrests and requiring extensive police resources in the Pilliga, at Glenugie, Maules Creek, and in the Upper Florentine Valley in Tasmania have been assisted, either operationally or financially, by several organisations on the Register (Planetfunder 2015; Mining Australia 2014; Permaculture 2015; ABC News 2015; Counteract 2015; Caroon Coal Action Group 2015).

Responding to protests of this nature can be a considerable drain on police resources. While comprehensive public data on police presence at environmental protests across Australia are not made public, the associated costs are likely to be substantial, particularly where protests take place outside metropolitan areas. For example, the Western Australian Police Commissioner revealed that the costs of policing a protest action at the site of a proposed gas hub at James Price Point cost \$1 million over 10 days in 2012 (Brown 2012).

Similarly, on 7 January 2013, Lock the Gate Alliance, an organisation on the Register, stated:

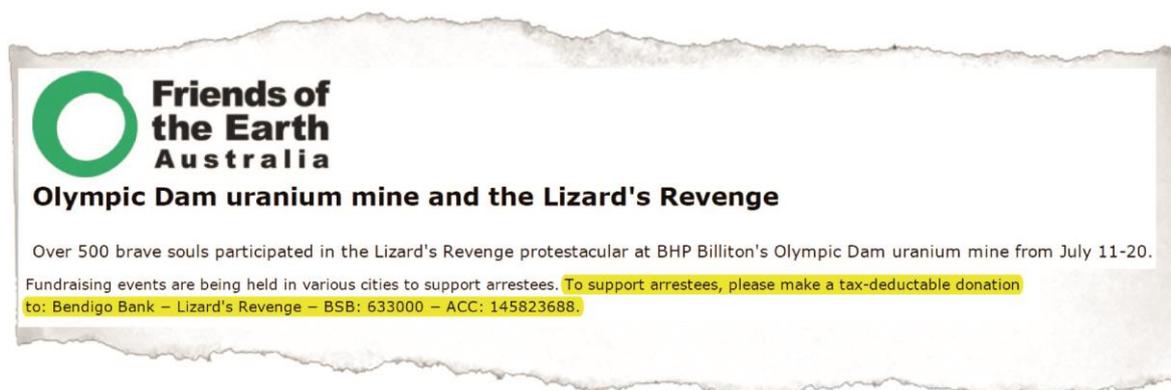
Today’s blockade of coal seam gas company, Metgasco, at Glenugie near Grafton was a huge success despite the company’s drill rig making it onto the property. It took a force of about 80 police nine hours to clear the blockaders and eighteen people were arrested.

Costs from demonstrations can also arise from lost production by businesses as well as damage to property. A common tactic used by protesters is to lock themselves onto equipment to block roads, or obstruct people from going about their business. This

often proves an effective method of causing delays for workers and management at development sites. The use by protestors of increasingly sophisticated techniques, such as thumb and barrel locks, can mean that releasing them, while also ensuring their physical safety, can take authorities days and often requires specialist equipment or expertise (Harvey 2015).

While the threat of arrest and fines can help deter such actions, the effectiveness of such methods are undermined where environmental groups make it known that fines will be paid through donations. For example, in April 2015 following substantial fines to anti-coal protestors who disrupted mining activities at Maules Creek, a spokesperson for Forest Alliance stated that donations made to various anti-mining movements would help cover the costs of some fines (The Courier 2015). Similarly, Friends of the Earth called for tax deductible donations to ‘support’ arrestees in relation to action known as “Lizard’s Revenge” at the Olympic Dam site in South Australia (see Figure 3).¹⁰ Australian taxpayers should not be required to fund tax deductions for donations that are explicitly being provided to fund unlawful activity.

Figure 3 **An example of call for tax deductible donations to assist “arrestees”**



Support for divestment campaigns

Overall, almost two-thirds (61 per cent) of the organisations audited supported divestment campaigns against Australia’s fossil fuel industries. Divestment campaigns seek to persuade investors that coal and other fossil fuel based industries have no

10 Friends of the Earth stated: “Fundraising events are being held in various cities to support arrestees. To support arrestees, please make a tax-deductible donation to: Bendigo Bank – Lizard's Revenge – BSB: 633000 – ACC: 145823688.” <http://www.foe.org.au/chain-reaction/editions/116/lizards>. A FoE campaigner was involved in the action along with two other organisations on the Register: <http://www.foe.org.au/articles/2012-07-23/report-back-olympic-dam-uranium-mine>; <http://treatypublic.net/content/13-arrested-lizards-revenge-uranium-mine-protest> (Arid Lands & Environment Centre NT); <http://jessieboylan.com/lizards-revenge/>.

economic future and that it is in their best interests to ‘divest’ out of these industries. Divestment is a key element in a wider strategy being actively pursued by environmental organisations in Australia. Key elements of this strategy are outlined in the 2011 report *Stopping the Australian Coal Export Boom*, which states:

Our strategy is to ‘disrupt and delay’ key projects and infrastructure while gradually eroding public and political support for the industry and continually building the power of the [anti-coal] movement to win more. (Hepburn et al. 2011)

Withdrawing the ‘social license’ of the coal industry is a central element in this strategy and involves the use of a coordinated network of like-minded groups to turn public perception against the industry by downplaying the contribution the industry makes to the economy and communities through jobs, investment, regional development and exports. These groups plan to gradually create an image of a “destructive industry that destroys the landscape and communities, corrupts our democracy, and threatens the global climate” (Hepburn et al. 2011).

While much of the funding for the development of the strategy came from overseas, many of the organisations named as part of this strategy are on the Register. These include: Environment Victoria, Environmental Defenders Offices in Queensland and NSW, Lock the Gate, Mackay Conservation Group, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, Nature Conservation Council of NSW, Beyond Zero Emissions and The Sunrise Project. Collectively these organisations had annual revenues of \$37 million and received tax deductible donations of \$24 million in their last financial reporting period.¹¹

Just over two-thirds of the organisations sampled from the Register made public statements aimed at highlighting and elevating concerns about the Great Barrier Reef (67 per cent) — a key element identified in the *Stopping the Australian Coal Export Boom* strategy.

Legal action

Just under half (47 per cent) of all organisations in the sample used legal action to thwart or delay government approvals for development. Appeals and reviews were lodged with a variety of courts and tribunals to prevent, limit or delay projects in diverse sectors such as:

- primary industry — aiming to increase regulation around commercial harvesters and abattoir operators;

11 Data relate to either 2013-14 financial year or calendar 2014.

- councils and commercial developers — objections to Development Applications;
- tourism — hotels, caravan parks and ecoparks have all been opposed on various grounds; and
- mining and resources — targeted with challenges to mine approvals, mining leases, Right to Information requests (RTI), seeking orders to stop alleged pollution, land clearing injunctions and water licenses.

Other issues

In collecting information for this audit, a number of other issues were observed that, in my view, warrant further examination by the committee:

- While a number of groups are clearly engaging in unlawful activity, arrests rarely lead to convictions and penalties. Further, when prosecution is successful penalties amount to a little more than a slap on the wrist. In my view, the Committee could usefully examine whether governments need to strengthen laws to deter these unlawful activities. In this regard, I note that the Western Australian Government has proposed a law to better define unlawful protest actions and increase fines.¹²
- In many cases information disseminated by organisations lacked objectivity. Material that failed to recognise the breadth of science and debate around issues was common. Most material promoted an uncompromising anti-development agenda. Some material was misleading, and included inaccurate claims about alleged adverse environmental impacts that were without a scientific or evidentiary basis. The Committee may want to consider whether organisations receiving tax deductible status should have an obligation not to engage in misleading conduct.
- Some organisations were found to be directing tax deductible donations to activities conducted by protest groups, and for purposes outside the objects of the Register. In some of these instances, organisations would appear to not have met the requirements that attend formal funding arrangements between

12 *Criminal Code Amendment (Prevention of Lawful Activity) Bill 2015.*

entities with different tax statuses.¹³ Reporting around such arrangements was limited and where available, opaque.¹⁴ A case study of one such arrangement is provided in Box 3.

- Similarly, links between domestic organisations and international ‘umbrella’ organisations, as well as international grant giving foundations, were common (59 per cent of groups in the audit had funding or organisational links with overseas entities). Arrangements were often complex and details were often poorly reported. Understanding these organisational and financial linkages was difficult. The Committee may want to consider whether there is a need for more stringent reporting requirements in regards to the overseas funding of registered organisations.
- Transparency around the provision of taxpayer funds in the form of publicly funded grants could be improved. Obtaining comprehensive information is difficult. There are a variety of government agencies involved in funding organisations on the Register. Reporting is inconsistent between departments and records are difficult to navigate.

More detailed information on the results of this analysis is provided Appendix A.

13 For example, if an organisation with DGR endorsement enters into an auspice agreement that breaches the tax law and ATO requirements for tax deductible donations, it could lose its own endorsement. Auspicing is a collaborative relationship where one organisation (the auspisor) agrees to enter into an agreement on behalf of a second group or an individual (the auspicee). This is usually done to obtain tax concessions that would otherwise be unavailable to the auspicee, for example, grant funding often requires that a recipient is incorporated, is a Tax Concession Charity or has DGR endorsement. Under Australian Law, it is the auspisor’s responsibility to ensure that entering into the auspicing agreement is consistent with the objects and powers of their organisation. They must be satisfied that the project or activities for which the funding is sought for the auspicee, furthers the mission of their own organisation in some way, and that it accords with their constituent documents (constitution, rules, by-laws). Auspiced activities must fit within the category of the funding body’s endorsement and be consistent with that organisation’s purposes (Justice Connect 2014).

14 This finding is in keeping with recently reported claims that politically motivated environmental groups are using their influence inappropriately to obtain anti-development goals (Maher 2015). Of note here is the disparity between the ‘stated purpose’ of the funding organisation: “He said the Sunrise Project [...] was a charitable organisation set up to protect the natural environment”, and the motivation for its inception as described on its website: “The Sunrise Project was launched in July 2012 out of a clear need to support communities directly impacted by the massive expansion of coal and gas projects across Australia.” The same summary of the group’s history concludes: “The Sunrise Project was created in part to provide at least some small counter to the massive PR and advertising budgets of the mining companies and their many lobby groups.” For the history in full see: The Sunrise Project (2012)

Box 3 An example of the funding of protest groups

Between 2008 and 2013, the NSW based Rainforest Information Centre (RIC), a charity listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations and eligible for tax deductible donations, operated a fundraising arrangement that delivered thousands of dollars to support the illegal activities of an informal collective of environmental activists intent on shutting down the forestry industry in Tasmania.

The Upper Florentine Valley blockade was established in October 2006 when the newly elected state government made preparations to begin logging areas of the Upper Florentine Valley. The site of a taxpayer funded road to be built in the valley by Forestry Tasmania, became the base of a six year stand-off between those whose livelihoods depend on the forestry industry, and activists opposed to industrial scale forestry in Tasmania.

From its beginning the Upper Florentine Valley blockade was the site of intense clashes between activists and police. In February 2007, police extracted activists who had locked themselves under trucks, attached themselves to cars and buried themselves in tunnels blocking the road. They made 16 arrests over three days but were ultimately unsuccessful in dismantling the complex structure of cables, tunnels, 'dragons' (tubes set in concrete with steel bars inside to which protesters 'lock on') and tents. Further arrests were made as forestry operations got underway. Some of these incidents involved violent clashes between forestry workers and protesters.

In January 2009, 27 protesters were arrested when they tried to block construction of a forestry road. Charges laid included assaulting police, trespass, obstructing police, disobeying the lawful direction of a police officer and breaching bail conditions. The action lasted 11 days.

By September 2009, in addition to the charges laid against activists engaged in 'direct action', more than 90 protesters had been charged and convicted of trespass, including many international visitors to the camp.

In 2010, 25 hectares of the 50 hectare coupe was logged under constant police supervision. Harvesting machines were locked in huge steel cages overnight to prevent activists from gaining access to them, although some still found their way in and lock-on incidents continued.

From at least July 2008, the RIC were accepting donations to support the Upper Florentine Valley blockade, known as 'Camp Flozza'.

- Dubbed "Floz Foster Ferals", the campaign imitated the popular format used by overseas aid charities seeking donations for the direct support of impoverished children and villages.
- In exchange for a weekly commitment to be used to buy a tarp, or a shovel or other essential items required at the blockade, sponsors were promised "regular contact with your foster feral". The Centre also promised that: "We at RIC will facilitate the communications and money transfer to make sure the program funds are documented and communications kept track of."
- Upon signing up, and establishing regular payments to the RIC Public Fund — the account used by the Rainforest Information Centre for receiving tax deductible gifts — the sponsor received a 'foster feral kit': 'an intro email from your lovely foster feral and a picture of them at the camp or with one of the giant trees they're there to save - you can stick these spunky photos on your fridge! Sponsors were assured: 'Your contributions will help keep this blockade camp going.'

The camp was Tasmania's longest running blockade, lasting over 6 years. It was finally dismantled in 2013 when the area was included in a 'forest peace deal' that saw 170,000 hectares of forest added to the World Heritage Area in Tasmania.

Sources: (Permaculture 2015; Still Wild Still Threatened 2012; Darby 2009; Rainforest Information Centre 2013; Rainforest Information Centre 2008; Blakers 2009; Price 2012; The Habitat Advocate 2015; ABC News 2009; Forestry Tasmania 2009; Australian Government)

4 Conclusion and recommendations

On any reasonable assessment, a robust evidence base on how organisations with deductible gift recipient status on the Register of Environmental Organisations use their resources is lacking.¹⁵ Based on the available information, it appears that a substantial minority of organisations on the Register are applying deductible gift funds to purposes outside the explicit objects of the Register. While the results reported in this submission derive from a high-level audit only, they demonstrate that more systematic and detailed scrutiny of the activities of organisations on the Register is warranted.

Taxpayer funding for environment related purposes has increased substantially in recent decades, and it is reasonable to expect that this level of investment would be accompanied by an appropriate level of scrutiny. Greater transparency and increased availability of information would shed much needed light on the practices and characteristics of the various organisations currently endowed with tax deductibility status, and ultimately on the environmental benefit the organisations on the Register deliver.¹⁶ For that reason, I recommend that the Government should conduct an audit of organisations on the Register. This audit should focus on the extent that organisations are meeting the requirements of the income tax act.

On completion of the audit, any organisations that are revealed to have breached the objects of the Register — including through using deductible gifts for non-permissible activities; engaging in unlawful behaviour; promoting or opposing political parties or a candidate for political office (in the instance that the organisation is a registered charity); and pursuing activities outside approved purposes — should be removed from the Register.

Recommendation 1:

The Government should, as a matter of priority, conduct a formal audit of the Register to assess the extent to which organisations on the Register are applying deductible gift funds to purposes outside the objects of the Register.

15 The PC (2010) Not-For-Profit Report recognised this deficiency for the Not-for-Profit sector in general, and recommended the development of an Information Development Plan (IDP) co-ordinated by the ABS and that a ‘Centre for Community Service Effectiveness’ be established to, among other roles, “build the information base for evidence based community service program and policy development”. The ABS has since signalled that future data development will aim to break down data along the ICNPO NFP classification system, which would come close to a break down in data along the various types of charitable purpose recognised in the 2013 Charities Act. (ABS 2010)

16 The analysis in this submission was completed before new definitions of sub types were available on the ACNC database. Entity subtypes now include activities such as ‘Advancing natural environment’ and ‘Promote or oppose a change to law, government policy or practice’. While this goes some way to identifying the various approaches an organisation might adopt, it does not address transparency deficiencies around resource allocation.

This inquiry has already exposed a gap in the interpretation of the “principal purpose” definition between some registered organisations and other stakeholders. Some argue that registered organisations should be completely free to engage in political campaigning, litigation and even civil disobedience or unlawful behaviour. I, however, would argue that many of these activities fall outside a reasonable interpretation of the protection of the natural environment or providing information, education or research about the natural environment.

Because of these differences in interpretation, there would be benefits in the responsible Ministers clarifying what would be considered activities that fall within the scope of the principal purpose test. Most of the uncertainty arises in relation to disputes over what is permissible under the information, education and research provision of the requirements. The Ministers could, in particular, clarify the meaning of these terms in the legislation through the creation of a set of guidelines.

Under section 30-265(4) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, the responsible Ministers already have power to make rules to ensure that donations to organisations on the Register are not used inappropriately.¹⁷ These provisions provide scope for the establishment of more detailed guidelines.

As a first step, these guidelines could more explicitly clarify the meaning of the “information, education or research” purpose test. Answers to Questions on Notice in the Senate show that the Department’s approach on this matter is not well explained. For example, in response to a question posed at Additional Estimates in February 2015, the Department stated:

There is no express limitation in the Act about whether the provision of information or education (or carrying on of research) must be carried out to achieve the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.

However, the Department interprets this provision in the context of subdivision 30-E; that is, the provision of information or education, or the carrying on of research, should ultimately be directed at some positive benefit relating to the protection of the natural environment.¹⁸

It would be useful if the Ministers could explicitly clarify the “interpretation” of the Department.

17 Section 30-265(4) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* states that an environmental organisation: “... must have agreed to comply with any rules that the Minister and the Environment Minister make to ensure that gifts made to the fund are used only for its principal purpose.”

18 Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee 2015, Answers to questions on notice, Environment Portfolio, Question no. 100, 23 February.

Moreover, guidelines should be developed with reference to approaches adopted by other countries with similar legal systems to ours. Box 4 examines some of the approaches in New Zealand, Canada, United States and the United Kingdom. The examples in overseas countries largely relate to the registration of charities but organisations registered to receive tax deductible donations should at least meet obligations equal to, or beyond, those that apply to charitable organisations. In any case, the regulation of charities in other countries often serves the dual purpose of registration for deductible gift status as well.

While all of these countries adopt slightly different approaches, a few characteristic principles emerge:

- there are prohibitions against illegal or unlawful activities;
- some forms of political campaigning are explicitly restricted, and generally can only be “ancillary” to the primary purpose of the organisation;
- most countries impose some form of disclosure of donations to deductible gift recipient organisations; and
- in the United Kingdom, organisations must ensure that they make “reasonable arguments” in their political campaigning.

A review of overseas requirements demonstrates that Australian law is more permissive. Recommendation 2 outlines how I propose Ministerial guidelines might strengthen our current system and reflect this overseas experience.

Box 4

International approaches to political activity in charity law

England — Charities can engage in political activity “if there is a reasonable expectation that the activity concerned will further the stated purposes of the charity.” (Home Office 2003) Political purpose is not recognised as a charitable purpose however, “the advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity” is considered a charitable purpose in its own right under the 2011 Act. Non charitable political activities must be ancillary to the charity’s other activities. Recent legislation has tightened regulation around electoral spending by charities (*Transparency of Lobbying, Non Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014*).

In addition, the charities activities must be based on “reasoned argument” and its activities cannot be illegal.

Canada — Political activity is clearly defined (Canada Revenue Agency 2013). An activity is presumed to be political if a charity:

... explicitly communicates a call to political action (that is, encourages the public to contact an elected representative or public official and urges them to retain, oppose, or change the law, policy, or decision of any level of government in Canada or a foreign country); explicitly communicates to the public that the law, policy, or decision of any level of government in Canada or a foreign country should be retained (if the retention of the law, policy, or decision is being reconsidered by a government), opposed, or changed; explicitly indicates in its materials (whether internal or external) that the intention of the activity is to incite, or organize to put pressure on, an elected representative or public official to retain, oppose, or change the law, policy, or decision

of any level of government in Canada or a foreign country; or makes a gift to another qualified donee to support political activities.

Such activity is allowed provided it is ancillary to other activities undertaken in furtherance of the organisation's charitable purpose. Current regulation places expenditure limits on political activities. (The organisation's expenditure on political activities can range between 12 to 20 per cent of a registered charity's annual income, depending on the total income in the previous year.) Activities aimed at influencing or changing public opinion on any issue are not prohibited, however, lobbying government directly is excluded from charitable purposes. Representations made to elected representatives or public officials that meet certain criteria can be considered charitable activities (Policy Statement CPS-022, Political Activities, sections 7.3 and 7.3.1).

New Zealand — Political advocacy and activities aimed at changing government policy undertaken in furtherance of an organisation's purpose are not disqualifying activities, provided the organisation's purpose remains charitable. Such activities must be ancillary to the organisation's charitable purpose (*Charities Act 2005* NZ). In the 2014 Greenpeace (Re Greenpeace of New Zealand Incorporated 2014) case the court held that the 'political purpose' exclusion did not apply under the *Charities Act 2005*. However, entities with political purposes must still satisfy the law's well-established "public benefit" test. Having found that political and charitable purposes are not mutually exclusive in all cases, the court made the following statements in relation to Greenpeace:

However, you need to satisfy the CRB that all of your non-ancillary purposes are of public benefit within the sense the law recognises as charitable ... We add that whether promotion of these ideas is beneficial is a matter of opinion in which public benefit is not self-evident and which seems unlikely to be capable of demonstration by evidence ... In addition, you cannot be accepted as a charity if you have any illegal or unlawful purpose, even if that purpose could be viewed as merely ancillary to the pursuit of your other purposes, and if your involvement in illegal or unlawful activity is sufficiently material or significant, then you will be viewed as having an illegal or unlawful purpose" (Simpson Grierson 2014)

United States — Political activity is regulated through legislative restrictions in United States tax code. Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 USC) sets out the requirements for an organisation to obtain tax-exempt status. Restrictions and prohibitions on various political activities apply depending on the specific classification of the charitable organisation, but in general the following prescription applies:

... no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided in subsection (h)), and which does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office ...

Australia — Following the 2013 Charities Act, Australia has the most expansive definition of a charity of all common law jurisdictions. The 2013 Charities Act recognises as a charitable purpose in its own right: "the purpose of promoting or opposing a change to any matter established by law, policy or practice in the Commonwealth, a State, a Territory or another country", provided it is in furtherance or protection of one of the other prescribed charitable purposes. However, certain types of political activity remain disqualifying purposes:

- the purpose of engaging in, or promoting, activities that are unlawful or contrary to public policy (for example, the constitution, law, safety of the public and national security — as distinct from government policy); or
- the purpose of promoting or opposing a political party or a candidate for political office.

Charities are still subject to electoral laws and must disclose electoral funding over a certain threshold (currently \$12,800)

In addition to drawing on this overseas experience, I recommend some additional changes informed by information collected during this audit, including:

- Australian guidelines should introduce a further restriction against the soliciting of donations to pay for fines, court costs and other costs resulting from alleged unlawful activities. As noted above, this has become a common practice among Australian environmental organisations. It is inappropriate that tax deductions be handed out to help fund the consequences of unlawful activity.
- All organisations should report to the Minister of Environment criminal charges and convictions by all employed staff or volunteers of organisations on the Register. Such reporting will help to better measure precisely the extent to which organisations are engaging in unlawful activities and therefore help establish whether their campaigning is ancillary to their environmental purpose.

Recommendation 2:

Ministerial guidelines should be developed that clearly specify what constitutes environmental purposes and how the 'principal purpose' requirement will be interpreted to establish membership of the Register.

These guidelines should:

- *include a list of activities that are consistent with the environmental purpose, and those that are not;*
- *clearly spell out eligible and ineligible activities under the information, education and research provision;*
- *mandate that the following actions be prohibited and would result in removal or suspension from the Register:*
 - *premeditated, material or significant unlawful activities;*
 - *soliciting donations to pay for fines, court costs and other costs resulting from alleged unlawful activities;*
 - *making demonstrably misleading statements about individuals or businesses;*
 - *supporting or opposing political parties or candidates; and*
 - *that broad political activities (other than directly canvassing for parties or candidates) be permissible providing they are ancillary to the principal environmental purpose of the organisation.*

Section 30-265(4) of the income tax act states that membership on the Register requires that an organisation:

... must have agreed to give the Environment Secretary, within a reasonable period after the end of each income year, statistical information about gifts made to the public fund during that income year.

I am not aware of what information is provided to the Environment Secretary under this provision. The financial information provided in this submission is largely sourced from the reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission, which is separate from the Register, and does not cover all of the organisations on the Register.

Accordingly, I recommend that the Environment Secretary require more detailed information from organisations on the Register and that this information be made publically available. At a minimum, this information should include timely reporting of financial statements but could extend to include specific examples of how the organisation has met the principal purpose test and mandatory reporting of any criminal charges or convictions of employed staff or volunteers relating to the work of the organisation.

It is acknowledged that any additional reporting obligations would impose compliance burdens on registered organisations. As has been clear from the information provided in this report, the majority of organisations are properly dedicated to improving the natural environment. Consideration should be given to restricting the requirements to organisations above a certain donation threshold to ensure that increased compliance requirements are well targeted.

Recommendation 3:

The Environment Secretary, under the powers provided to him/her under section 30-265(4), require registered organisations to report annually on:

- *the financial statements of registered organisations, with a degree of detail that identifies, for the benefit of donors and taxpayers, what and where funds are being used;*
- *practical examples of how a registered organisation is meeting the principal purpose test under section 30-265(1); and*
- *any criminal charges and convictions by all employed staff or volunteers relating to the work of an organisations on the Register.*

This information should be made publically available and consideration should be given to imposing lighter reporting obligations on organisations below a certain donation threshold.

To enforce the existing requirements of the income tax act, and future guidelines, it is important that the Department of Environment be provided with sufficient resources

to undertake stronger ongoing monitoring. It is my understanding that the resources employed by the Department of Environment to monitor the activities of organisations on the Register have been limited in recent years. Greater resourcing could be funded by the introduction of an annual levy paid by organisations on the Register.

In its *Scoping Study for a National Not-for-profit Regulator*, Treasury (2011) examined a similar issue, albeit for a different purpose, and weighed up the arguments for and against a regulatory contribution paid by not-for-profit (NFP) organisations. It noted that such an approach would be consistent with the majority of other regulated entities in Australia, as well as various overseas jurisdictions.¹⁹ Treasury ultimately recommended that Government consider the merits of a supervisory co-contribution, but noted:

If a supervisory co-contribution is adopted, it should be tiered to reflect the resourcing constraints of smaller NFP entities.

There is a range of ways that funding could be sourced from registered organisations. To avoid causing difficulties to the smaller organisations on the Register costs could be met by imposing a levy payable only by organisations that receive substantial donations (of more than, say, \$1 million per year). Such an approach should yield sufficient funds.

Recommendation 4:

To help fund more stringent monitoring and compliance arrangements an annual fee should be paid by those organisations on the Register receiving substantial donations. The amount of this fee, and the threshold of donations before it applies, should be calculated using advice from the Department.

¹⁹ Administrative fees are collected from regulated charities and not-for-profits in the US and NZ, but not in the UK (Treasury 2011).

Appendix A Preliminary audit of the Register: results and methodology

A preliminary assessment of publicly available material from the approximately 600 organisations listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations (as at April 2015) was undertaken to gauge the extent to which organisations exhibited political purposes. A subgroup of 108 organisations was then chosen for further study. Organisations were excluded from the subgroup where, on balance, the available information, including Annual Reports and Annual Information Statements (provided to the ACNC), indicated that their primary focus was to undertake practical actions to support the natural environment. Availability of data was also a factor in choosing groups to examine. Many organisations' reporting lacks sufficient available data on which to make an informed assessment of an organisation's focus and activities.

The analysis seeks to bring together data from various sources including the ACNC and various government and non-government organisations to shed light on some of the broad characteristics and activities of these organisations. It also aims to provide some descriptive statistics and information on key metrics including government funding, tax deductible donations, revenue etc., available to these organisations to pursue their objectives.

While there were necessarily judgements made in relation to some of the questions asked in this study, subjectivity was minimised as much as possible by using indicators that were primarily descriptive in character. As far as possible, objective indicators which recorded the presence (or absence) of key activities of interest were used.

The information contained in the study is derived from publicly available material, including websites, social media sites, newsletters and publications. A key source of information was the ACNC website and online database.

Government funding figures given in the scorecard are estimates only, and are likely to underestimate actual government funding to these specific organisations. This is because financial reporting to the ACNC for small charities is optional. There is also a lack of comprehensive information relating to government grants provided to organisations on the Register. Information around donations is similarly limited and likewise represents a minimum estimate.

Overall, the organisations in the sample exhibited considerable diversity in characteristics, including size, age, funding sources, staffing and resources. A list of the questions used to analyse each organisation, along with aggregated results, is provided in Table 1.

Table 1 **Activities analysis: questions and aggregate results by indicator**

Indicator	Details	Result
Total number of organisations examined^a	(listed on Register as at April 2015)	108
Average age of organisations in sample	(years listed on Register)	14
(Average age of all organisations in Register)	(years listed on Register)	10
Organisations in sample listed on the ACNC register	(as at April 2015)	94
Distribution by size:		
Small	(revenue less than \$250,000)	39%
Medium	(revenue of \$250,000 to <\$1m)	25%
Large	(revenue of \$1 million or more)	27%
Unknown		9%
RESOURCES		
Staffing		
Paid staff (total)	All organisations (persons)	1074
Paid staff (average)	Average per organisation (persons)	11
Volunteers (total)	All organisations (persons)	12,968
Volunteers (average)	Average per organisation (persons)	137
Revenue		
Donations (tax deductible)	Total (latest available year, \$m)	\$106.1
Government grants	Total (latest available year, \$m)	\$12.3
(number of organisations that received grants)	(share of total)	(64%)
Total revenue for all organisations	Total (latest available year, \$m)	\$155.2

Attitude to development

(The following answers are based on statements and actions of organisations reported in publicly available material including, organisational websites, facebook pages, articles, news reports etc.)

Has the organisation expressed opposition to fossil fuels or mining activities in Australia?	95%
Has the organisation expressed opposition to other economic activities in Australia?	92%
Has the organisation expressed opposition to either fossil fuels/mining activities or other non-mining related development?	100%
<i>Examples of industries opposed</i>	<i>roads, forestry, ports, tourism, fishing, airports, fossil fuel projects, LNG refinery, coal/gas power, clean coal, uranium/nuclear, hydro, fracking, dams, marinas, infrastructure, paper manufacture, transport, agriculture, rail, waste/tech, herbicides, pesticides, genetically modified crops/food, cattle, bioenergy</i>
<i>Examples of activities opposed</i>	<i>growth, population, human settlement, recreation, trade, urban/residential development, North Queensland development, Northern Australia development, coastal development, development involving water or landclearing, all development</i>

Actions taken to promote organisational goals

Does the website (including facebook page) promote protests and/or demonstrations?	82%
Did the organisation participate in a demonstration or protest with a police presence? ^b	39%
Does the organisation promote or support divestment?	61%
Is the organisation taking (or has taken) legal action to oppose development?	47%
Did the organisation (staff or members) engage in lawbreaking or directly support activity of this nature? ^c	12%

**Reporting of practical actions
undertaken to improve the
natural environment**

Does the organisation's report to the ACNC (Annual Report or Annual Information Statement) or other documented material provide a breakdown of resources directed to practical actions taken to improve the natural environment? ^d

Full breakdown for most or all activities, (including description of activity, date, resources (\$) employed)	0%
Some limited discussion but with gaps	33%
No information provided	59%
No report or information available	7%

International activities

Does the organisation have links (either financial or organisational) to overseas organisations?	59%
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Notes: ^a This subset includes four organisations listed in the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*. It should not be seen as representative of all of the approximately 600 organisations on the Register. ^b This figure is based on public reporting rather than official data released by police departments, and as such, it is likely to substantially underestimate actual police resources used. ^c 'Can include, civil disobedience, trespassing, lock on etc. Source material must clearly indicate that representative members were arrested or charged, or that the organisation directly ie. financially, operationally etc. supported the action. ^d 'Practical actions' were defined here as those that have a direct physical impact on the natural environment. Examples include: tree planting, weed and pest eradication, rubbish removal and recycling, saving and relocating wildlife, creating fire breaks, building wildlife crossings, assisting landholders with groundcover and erosion mitigation, etc. Practical actions do not include: awareness raising, market research, providing logistical, transport and other support for demonstrations/rallies blockades, provision of legal advice prior to, and following, demonstrations, staging conferences, campaigning in elections etc.

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Year of entry on REO	Has the organisation expressed opposition to fossil fuels or mining activities in Australia?	Examples	Has the organisation made statements opposing development in Australia?	What type of development was opposed?	Examples	Opposes either fossil fuels, mining or development
100% Renewable Community Campaign Inc.	31 July 2013	Yes	http://bit.ly/1L8EzTA (paid to p	Yes	coal exports	https://www.facebook.com/100renew/posts/50/	Yes
AidWatch	13 June 1996	Yes	http://www.aidwatch.org.au/stc	Yes	hydro (international)	http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-07-17/world-4	Yes
Alternative Technology Association Inc	21 February 1994	Yes	http://www.ata.org.au/wp-conti	Yes	fossil fuel projects	http://www.melbourne.foe.org.au/rural_and_urb	Yes
Arid Lands Environment Centre Inc	21 February 1994	Yes	http://alec.org.au/news-a-even	Yes	Nuclear	http://alec.org.au/programs-2/building-resiliencx	Yes
Australian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	25 February 2007	Yes	https://twitter.com/JenniferAAE	Yes	roads, forestry	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?ston	Yes
Australian Climate Coolers Ltd (1 million women)	23 March 2011	Yes	https://chuffed.org/project/1mi	Yes	Coal Ports, logging	http://www.1millionwomen.com.au/2014/09/07/	Yes
Australian Conservation Foundation	31 December 1965	Yes	http://www.acfonline.org.au/sib	Yes	Industrial, Northern Australia, export, urban, coal power stations,	http://www.thefifthstate.com.au/business/ives	Yes
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	26 November 2009	Yes	http://webcache.googleusercontent.com	Yes	aquaculture, urban expansion	http://www.aegn.org.au/wp-content/uploads/20	Yes
Australian Environment Foundation Limited	3 November 2005	No		Yes	Uncontrolled population growth	http://aefweb.info/articles69.html ("Uncontrolled	Yes
Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc	11 June 1993	Yes	http://www.marineconservator	Yes	port, gallee basin	http://younesco.org/ ; http://www.marineconsen	Yes
Australian Network of Environmental Defenders Offices Inc (ANEDO)	2 August 2012	Yes	http://www.edoqld.org.au/wp-c	Yes	power stations	http://www.wombatprotection.org.au/conferenci	Yes
Australian Rainforest Conservation Society Inc	12 March 1993	Yes	http://www.rainforest.org.au/e	Yes	logging, mining, quarrying	http://www.rainforest.org.au/extractive_industrie	Yes
Australian Solar Energy Society Limited	4 July 2011	Yes	http://solar.org.au/about-the-ai	No			Yes
Australian Wildlife Protection Council (Victoria) Inc	10 April 1995	Yes	http://awpc.org.au/tag/mines/	Yes	Northern Australia ; tourism/urban	http://awpc.org.au/tag/mines/	Yes
Australian Youth Climate Coalition Ltd	4 December 2012	Yes	http://www.riskingthereef.org/a	Yes	port	http://www.aycc.org.au/lend_lease	Yes
Ballarat Renewable Energy and Zero Emissions (B.R.E.A.Z.E.) Inc	19 September 2007	Yes	http://www.breaze.org.au/projct	Yes	coal exports	http://www.breaze.org.au/action-groups/engagi	Yes
Baw Baw Sustainability Network Inc	22 March 2011	Yes	http://www.bbsn.org.au/coal-si	Yes	coal exports	https://www.facebook.com/BawBawSustainabil	Yes
Be The Change Ltd	22 March 2011	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/grc	Yes	nuclear	https://www.facebook.com/groups/1202998315	Yes
Bendigo Sustainability Group Inc	24 November 2009	Yes	http://www.bsg.org.au/wp-cont	Yes	logging	https://www.facebook.com/BendigoSustainabili	Yes
Beyond Zero Emissions Inc	22 March 2011	Yes	http://bze.org.au/blog/dirty-ene	Yes	LNG, Carbon Capture & storage, Coal power, anything 'carbon'	http://bze.org.au/discussions/pdf_files/CCS_20	Yes
Birdlife Australia	27 April 2012	Yes	https://twitter.com/BirdlifeOz/s	Yes	port construction, fracking	https://twitter.com/BirdlifeOz/status/562097675	Yes
Blue Mountains Conservation Society	12 November 1996	Yes	http://www.bluemountains.org	Yes	population, growth, urban, airport	http://www.bluemountains.org.au/documents/le	Yes
Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute Limited	31 October 2005	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Blu	Yes	land clearing ; urban development	https://www.facebook.com/BlueMountainsWork	Yes
Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association Inc	31 August 1994	Yes	http://www.biipa.org/content/E	Yes	Port construction, land clearing	http://www.biipa.org/content/BIEPA%20News.	Yes
Bridgetown Greenbushes Friends of the Forest Incorporated	4 January 2005	Yes	http://www.r4rm.com/documer	Yes	logging	http://waforestalliance.org/	Yes
Busselton-Dunsborough Environment Centre Incorporated	19 August 1998	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	roads, logging	http://www.bdec.org.au/uploads/3/2/1/1/321147	Yes
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre Inc	2 December 1993	Yes	http://www.greenpeace.org/au	Yes	port	http://cafnc.org.au/2014/02/petition-save-reef-	Yes
Caldera Environment Centre Inc	13 June 1996	Yes	http://www.lockthegate.org.au	Yes	dam, residential, golf course	http://calderaenvironmentcentre.org/?p=948 ("C	Yes
Capricorn Conservation Council	19 May 1998	Yes	http://www.cccqld.org.au/medi	Yes	eco tourism; urban development; marina; port	http://www.cccqld.org.au/media/Balaclava_port	Yes
Catholic Earthcare Australia Trust	27 February 2006	Yes	https://www.youtube.com/watc	Yes	Nuclear	http://catholicearthcare.org.au/2015/01/light-for	Yes
CERES [Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies] Inc	13 June 1996	No		Yes	GM food	http://www.ceres.org.au/shop/our-purchasing-p	Yes
Clean Energy for Eternity Inc	22 March 2011	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	nuclear and clean coal	http://dea.org.au/news/article/clean_energy_for	Yes
Climate Action Network Australia Incorporated	27 September 2001	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	coal power stations, nuclear reactor, land clearing, logging ; all f	http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/paj	Yes
Climate Institute (Australia) Ltd	16 December 2009	Yes	http://www.climateinstitute.org	Yes	new coal fired power generation, exports	http://www.climateinstitute.org.au/verve/ resou	Yes
Community Environment Network Inc.	11 September 2002	Yes	https://www.parliament.nsw.gc	Yes	residential	http://www.cen.org.au/Environment-Conservatik	Yes
Conservation Council ACT Region Inc	29 June 1994	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/cor	No			Yes
Conservation Council of South Australia Inc	12 March 1993	Yes	http://www.conservationsa.org	Yes	dam	http://www.conservationsa.org.au/component/c	Yes
Conservation Council of Western Australia Inc	12 March 1993	Yes	http://ccwa.org.au/content/coa	Yes	nuclear, logging	http://ccwa.org.au/campaigns/forests	Yes
Cool Australia Trust	24 November 2009	Yes	http://www.coolaustralia.org/wl	No			Yes
Denmark Environment Centre Inc	2 December 1993	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	logging, GM food	http://waforestalliance.org/ ; https://www.facebc	Yes
Doctors for the Environment (Australia)	27 June 2005	Yes	http://dea.org.au/resources/fik	Yes	ports; forestry; infrastructure	http://dea.org.au/resources/file/fact-action-shee	Yes
Environment Defenders Office (Victoria) Ltd	2 December 1993	Yes	http://envirojustice.org.au/med	Yes	development ; trade	http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/25	Yes
Environment East Gippsland Incorporated	1 February 2005	Yes	http://www.eastgippsland.net.a	Yes	logging, forest management, paper manufacture and trade	http://www.eastgippsland.net.au/news/increase	Yes
Environment Tasmania Inc	13 February 2009	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/En	Yes	ports, coastal development, logging	https://www.facebook.com/EnvironmentTasma	Yes
Environment Victoria Inc	12 March 1993	Yes	http://energyaus-environmentv	Yes	construction (port, brown coal export industry)	https://westernport-environmentvictoria.nationb	Yes
Environmental Defenders Office (ACT) Inc	2 October 2014	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/em	No			Yes

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Year of entry on REO	Has the organisation expressed opposition to fossil fuels or mining activities in Australia?	Examples	Has the organisation made statements opposing development in Australia?	What type of development was opposed?	Examples	Opposes either fossil fuels, mining or development
Environmental Defender's Office (Qld) Inc	29 June 1994	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	ports, coastal development	http://www.edoqld.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2	Yes
Environmental Defenders Office (SA) Inc	13 June 1996	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	dam	http://www.edosa.org.au/case_notes	Yes
Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc	29 April 2011	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/711	Yes	tourism, transport	http://us3.campaign-archive2.com/?u=c0631a6	Yes
Environmental Defender's Office Ltd	10 April 1995	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/min	Yes	all development, especially mining, some housing/urban	http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/201	Yes
Environmental Defender's Office of Northern Queensland Incorporated	23 March 1999	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Enr	Yes	ports	https://www.facebook.com/EnvironmentalDefe	Yes
Environmental Defender's Office WA Inc	4 June 1996	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	marina	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?ston	Yes
Environs Kimberley Incorporated	23 August 1999	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/em	Yes	port, gas refinery, GM cotton, dam	http://www.environskimberley.org.au/wp-conten	Yes
Friends of the Earth (Melbourne) Inc	13 June 1996	Yes	https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloud	Yes	logging, tourism, transport	http://www.melbourne.foe.org.au/hands_off_the	Yes
Friends of the Earth Australia	18 August 2002	Yes	http://www.foe.org.au/coal-coa	Yes	coal power stations, nuclear	http://www.foe.org.au/anti-nuclear ; http://web.a	Yes
Gecko-Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council Association Inc	12 November 1996	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Ge	Yes	tourism development	https://www.facebook.com/GeckoGoldCoast/pl	Yes
Green Cross Australia Limited	19 June 2008	Yes	http://www.greencrossaustrali	No			Yes
Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited	29 June 1994	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	coal power stations	http://www.greenpeace.org/australia/en/news/c	Yes
Humane Society International Inc	12 September 1995	Yes	https://www.hsi.org.au/go/to/9f	Yes	ports	https://www.hsi.org.au/go/to/1711/8th-august-2	Yes
Hunter Environment Lobby Inc	13 February 2009	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	port expansion/coal port	http://web.archive.org/web/20150324163333/hl	Yes
Institute of Health and Environmental Research Incorporated	19 August 2004	No		Yes	GMO	http://www.i-sis.org.uk/SPUCTGM.php (golden	Yes
International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives - Aus/NZ	8 May 2002	Yes	http://www.iclei.org/details/artik	Yes	transformational adaptation - no dev in high- risk areas	http://oceania.iclei.org/tw/newsdetails/article/wh	Yes
Lawyers for Forests Incorporated	3 November 2005	No		Yes	logging, industry (silicon smelter)	http://www.eastjppisland.net.au/news/lawyers-l	Yes
Living Ocean Inc	20 June 2013	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/livir	Yes	population, Large-scale commercial fishing	https://www.facebook.com/livingocean/photos/f	Yes
Lock the Gate Alliance Limited	27 June 2013	Yes	http://www.lockthegate.org.au	Yes	Gas development	http://www.lockthegate.org.au/csg_will_cost_yc	Yes
Mackay Conservation Group Inc	11 June 1993	Yes	http://www.mackayconservatic	Yes	port	http://www.mackayconservationgroup.org.au/at	Yes
Markets for Change Limited	31 July 2013	Yes	http://www.marketsforchange	Yes	bioenergy, infrastructure, logging, agriculture, human settlement	http://www.marketsforchange.org/mfc-reports/	Yes
Mineral Policy Institute	13 June 1996	Yes	http://www.mpi.org.au/2014/06/	Yes	coal power stations	http://www.sustainablelivingtasmania.org.au/coi	Yes
Mount Alexander Sustainability Group Incorporated	10 August 2006	Yes	http://masg.org.au/2015/03/20/	Yes	logging, tourism	http://masg.org.au/2015/02/suds-up/ ("the Tasn	Yes
MyEnvironment Inc	19 September 2007	Yes	https://twitter.com/My_Environ	Yes	logging	https://www.facebook.com/MyEnvironment.Inc/	Yes
National Parks Association of New South Wales	31 December 1982	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/NP	Yes	logging/clearing	https://www.facebook.com/NPANSW/photos/a	Yes
National Parks Association of Queensland	31 December 1982	Yes	http://www.npaq.org.au/camps	Yes	rail, port, grazing, tourism	http://bimblebox.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/	Yes
National Toxics Network Incorporated	2 October 2014	Yes	http://qldconservation.org.au/v	Yes	waste/tech, herbicides, pesticides, GM ; coal power stations	https://www.facebook.com/NTN/posts/852629f	Yes
Nature and Society Forum Inc	12 September 1995	Yes	http://www.natsoc.org.au/reso	Yes	population, consumption, growth	http://www.natsoc.org.au/resources/2014-slider	Yes
Nature Conservation Council of NSW Inc	29 June 1994	Yes	http://www.nature.org.au/get-ir	Yes	roads, logging	https://www.facebook.com/naturensw/posts/94	Yes
North Queensland Conservation Council Inc	31 August 1994	Yes	http://nqcc.org.au/coal-csg/ ; http://h	Yes	port	http://nqcc.org.au/2014/government-ignores-co	Yes
Permaculture International Limited	19 August 1998	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Pe	Yes	GM food	http://permacultureaustralia.org.au/2015/02/26/	Yes
Protect the Kimberley Ltd	14 October 2008	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	industry, tourism, fishing	http://www.likewhereelse.org.au/get-the-facts	Yes
Purves Environmental Trust	11 August 2004	Yes	http://www.thepowerindex.com	Yes	land clearing, ports	http://www.thepowerindex.com.au/rich-crusade	Yes
Queensland Conservation Council	12 March 1993	Yes	http://qldconservation.org.au/v	Yes	coal power stations ; nuclear	http://web.archive.org/web/20141108121423/hl	Yes
Rainforest Information Centre Inc	29 June 1994	Yes	http://www.greenpeace.org/au	Yes	power stations ; logging ; international development	http://www.rainforestinfo.org.au/climate/action.f	Yes
SEE-Change (Society, Environment, Economy) Inc	29 April 2011	Yes	http://www.see-change.org.au	No			Yes
South West Environment Centre Inc	12 September 1995	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/sw	Yes	urban, land clearing	http://www.freewebs.com/swec_wa/bushland.h	Yes
STEP Inc	25 June 1997	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/ST	Yes	commercial, urban, deforestation	https://www.facebook.com/STEP.Inc.Sydney/pi	Yes
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	2 December 1993	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Su	Yes	urban development	http://www.scec-action.org.au/hallscreek_petiti	Yes
Surfrider Foundation Limited	10 October 2000	Yes	http://www.surfrider.org.au/bra	Yes	eco tourism ; road	http://www.surfrider.org.au/branch/qld-campicor	Yes
Sustainable Living Foundation	30 July 2011	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	No		http://www.slf.org.au/event/festival-divestment-l	Yes
Sustainable Living Tasmania Inc	12 March 1993	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/sus	No		http://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservat	Yes
Sustainable Population Australia Incorporated	10 April 1995	Yes	https://www.population.org.au/	Yes	all resources: 'peak gas, coal, uranium'; ports; tourism	http://www.population.org.au/articles/2013-10-1	Yes
Sustainable Table Limited	2 August 2012	Yes		Yes	GM food	http://sustainabletable.org.au/TableTalk/tabid/5	Yes
Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Inc	2 December 1993	Yes	http://www.ssec.org.au/?p=19	Yes	building - commercial, residential, community; urban, nuclear, air	http://web.archive.org/web/20130410133311/hl	Yes
Tarkine National Coalition Incorporated	27 February 2006	Yes	http://www.tarkine.org/mining/	Yes	mining, tourism, cattle, logging	http://www.tarkine.org/logging/	Yes

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Year of entry on REO	Has the organisation expressed opposition to fossil fuels or mining activities in Australia?	Examples	Has the organisation made statements opposing development in Australia?	What type of development was opposed?	Examples	Opposes either fossil fuels, mining or development
The Bob Brown Foundation	27 June 2013	Yes	http://www.bobbrown.org.au/b	Yes	roads, tourism, ports	http://www.bobbrown.org.au/alert_woodchip_ex	Yes
The Clarence Environment Centre Incorporated	24 July 2002	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	forestry	https://www.facebook.com/148554835192853/	Yes
The Coastwatchers Association Incorporated	20 January 2003	Yes	http://www.coastwatchers.org	Yes	tourist resort; biofuel; charcoal factory; gold mine	http://www.coastwatchers.org.au/campaignsan	Yes
The Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd	25 June 1993	Yes	http://www.colongwilderness.o	Yes	dams; forestry; recreational activities; brumbies!; tourism develo	http://www.colongwilderness.org.au/dont-raise-	Yes
The Environment Centre NT Inc	26 June 1993	Yes	http://www.ecnt.org/protectour	Yes	dams; nuclear	http://www.ecnt.org/protectourterritory	Yes
The Sunrise Project Australia Limited	31 July 2013	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	fossil fuel industry infrastructure, ports/terminals, dredging	http://web.archive.org/web/20150526060114/ht	Yes
The Wilderness Society Inc	11 June 1993	Yes	https://www.wildemess.org.au	Yes	dam, nuclear	http://www.wilderness.org.au/articles/ding-dong	Yes
Total Environment Centre	11 June 1993	Yes	http://www.tec.org.au/carbon-r	Yes	logging, landclearing, mining, agriculture, power stations	http://www.tec.org.au/your-forests.html ; http://v	Yes
Victorian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	19 August 2004	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/VA	No			Yes
Victorian National Parks Association	31 December 1982	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/pei	Yes	port, logging, commercial development	http://vnpa.org.au/page/nature-conservation/tak	Yes
Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists Foundation	24 November 2009	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201	Yes	dams; high water use development or landclearing	http://www.abc.net.au/site-archiv/rural/news/cx	Yes
Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council Inc	21 February 1994	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Wf	Yes	port	http://quitcoal.org.au/coal-port-hastings/ ("Spea	Yes
Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia Ltd	24 November 2009	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Au	Yes	land clearing, over-development, traditional hunting	http://www.australianwildlife.net.au/pdf/mags/A	Yes
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	11 June 1993	Yes	http://www.wildlife.org.au/news	Yes	dams; port ; power stations	http://www.wildlife.org.au/conservation/recent_s	Yes
World Animal Protection Limited	2 August 2001	No		Yes	live export ; industrial animal agriculture ; intensive farming	https://agriculturalcompetitiveness.dpmc.gov.au	Yes
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	31 December 1977	Yes	http://www.wwf.org.au/our_wo	Yes	port; coal power stations	https://www.facebook.com/WWF/photos/a.897	Yes
		103		99			108
		95%		92%			100%

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Has the organisation made statements (articles, website, etc) highlighting concerns about the Great Barrier Reef?	Examples	Does the website (including facebook page) promote protests and/or demonstrations?	Examples	Did they participate in a demonstration or protest with a police presence?	Examples	Did the organisation (staff or members) engage in lawbreaking activities or directly support activity of this nature?	Examples	Does the organisation promote or support divestment?	Examples
Environmental Defender's Office (Qld) Inc	Yes	http://edogld.nationbuilder.com/	No		No		No		No	
Environmental Defenders Office (SA) Inc	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/1	No		No		No	
Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.p	No		No		No		No	
Environmental Defender's Office Ltd	No		No	https://www.facebook.com/e	No		No		No	
Environmental Defender's Office of Northern Queensland Incorporated	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Environmer	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/E	No		No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/E
Environmental Defender's Office WA Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.p	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p	No	https://www.facebook.com/permal	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/4
Environs Kimberley Incorporated	No		Yes	https://indymedia.org.au/201	Yes	https://indymedia.org.au/2012/05/1	No		Yes	http://www.environskimberle
Friends of the Earth (Melbourne) Inc	Yes	http://www.melbourne.foe.org.au/prote	Yes	https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.clo	Yes	http://www.theaustralian.com.au/ne	Yes	http://www.smh.com.au/env	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p
Friends of the Earth Australia	Yes	http://www.brisbane.foe.org.au/coal-an	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p	Yes	http://m.theaustralian.com.au/busin	Yes	http://www.sixdegrees.org.a	Yes	http://www.foe.org.au/article
Gecko-Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council Association Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/GeckoGold	Yes	http://gecko.org.au/download	Yes	http://www.northernstar.com.au/nei	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/C
Green Cross Australia Limited	No		Yes	https://twitter.com/GreenCro	No	https://www.facebook.com/GreenC	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/C
Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited	Yes	http://www.greenpeace.org/australia/er	Yes	http://www.greenpeace.org/e	Yes	http://www.coolaustralia.org/protes	Yes	http://www.canberratimes.c	Yes	http://www.greenpeace.org/e
Humane Society International Inc	Yes	https://www.hsi.org.au/go/to/1711/8th-e	Yes	https://www.hsi.org.au/go/to/	Yes	http://www.smh.com.au/national/pn	No		Yes	http://tckctck.org/2015/02/
Hunter Environment Lobby Inc	No		No		No		No		No	
Institute of Health and Environmental Research Incorporated	No		No		No		No		No	
International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives - Aus/NZ	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.p	No	This is a peak-peak group. c	No		No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p
Lawyers for Forests Incorporated	No		No		No		No	http://lawyersforforests.asn	No	
Living Ocean Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/livingocean/	Yes	http://www.livingocean.org.au	No		No		No	
Lock the Gate Alliance Limited	Yes	http://www.lockthegate.org.au/about_o	Yes	https://www.google.com.au/s	Yes	https://www.google.com.au/ur?sa	Yes	http://www.northernstar.com	Yes	http://www.lockthegate.org.a
Mackay Conservation Group Inc	Yes	http://www.mackayconservationgroup.c	Yes	http://www.dailymercury.com	Yes	http://www.abc.net.au/local/photos/	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/r
Markets for Change Limited	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/r	Yes	http://www.themercury.com.au/new	No		No	
Mineral Policy Institute	No		Yes	http://www.mpi.org.au/2013/	Yes	https://ramumine.wordpress.com/2	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/B
Mount Alexander Sustainability Group Incorporated	Yes	http://masg.org.au/2014/12/active-chris	Yes	http://masg.org.au/2014/10/c	No	http://masg.org.au/2014/09/and-we	No		Yes	http://masg.org.au/2014/12/c
MyEnvironment Inc	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/l	Yes	http://www.myenvironment.net.au/i	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/	No	
National Parks Association of New South Wales	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/n	Yes	http://www.worldheritage.org.au/stc	No		No	
National Parks Association of Queensland	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/NPAQId/ph	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/n	No		No		Yes	http://ptba.org.au/australian-
National Toxics Network Incorporated	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/NTN/posts/	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/n	No		No		Yes	http://www.ntn.org.au/wp/wp
Nature and Society Forum Inc	No		No	http://www.natsoc.org.au/	No		No		Yes	http://www.natsoc.org.au/res
Nature Conservation Council of NSW Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/naturenswf/	Yes	http://www.nature.org.au/nev	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/naturen	No		Yes	http://www.nature.org.au/me
North Queensland Conservation Council Inc	Yes	http://www.greatbarrierreef.org.au/grea	Yes	http://ngcc.org.au/2014/rally-	No	https://www.facebook.com/photo.p	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/jc
Permaculture International Limited	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/P	No		No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p
Protect the Kimberley Ltd	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p	No		No		No	
Purves Environmental Trust	Yes	http://www.thepowerindex.com.au/rich-	Yes	http://www.purvesenvirofund	No		No		Yes	https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.clo
Queensland Conservation Council	Yes	http://qldconservation.org.au/protectthe	Yes	http://www.brisbanetimes.co	Yes	http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/c	No		Yes	http://qldconservation.org.au
Rainforest Information Centre Inc	No		Yes	http://www.rainforestinfo.org	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/CsgFre	Yes	http://www.echo.net.au/201	No	
SEE-Change (Society, Environment, Economy) Inc	No		Yes	http://climateactioncanberra	No		No		Yes	http://us8.campaign-archive1
South West Environment Centre Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/swenvironm	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/s	Yes	http://www.smh.com.au/envirionmei	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/s
STEP Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/STEP.Inc.S	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/S	No		No		No	
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/SunshineCc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/S	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/Sunshir	No		Yes	http://www.scec.org.au/camr
Surfrider Foundation Limited	Yes	http://www.surfrider.org.au/branch/qld-c	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/S	Yes	http://clarevalleycc.blogspot.com	No	http://www.surfrider.org.au/l	No	
Sustainable Living Foundation	No		Yes	(broadly - through festival/for	No		No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/S
Sustainable Living Tasmania Inc	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/s	No		No		Yes	http://www.slt.org.au/festival-
Sustainable Population Australia Incorporated	Yes	http://www.population.org.au/articles/2c	Yes	http://candobetter.net/node/3	No	http://www.population.org.au/article	No		No	
Sustainable Table Limited	No		No		No		No		No	
Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Inc	Yes	http://www.ssec.org.au/Garnaut_letter.l	Yes	http://www.theleader.com.au	No		No		Yes	https://sites.google.com/site/
Tarkine National Coalition Incorporated	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/e	No		No		No	

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Has the organisation made statements (articles, website, etc) highlighting concerns about the Great Barrier Reef?	Examples	Does the website (including facebook page) promote protests and/or demonstrations?	Examples	Did they participate in a demonstration or protest with a police presence?	Examples	Did the organisation (staff or members) engage in lawbreaking activities or directly support activity of this nature?	Examples	Does the organisation promote or support divestment?	Examples
							Including civil disobedience - staff or members arrested, - organisation supported action financially/operationally			
The Bob Brown Foundation	Yes	http://www.bobbrown.org.au/big_coal_c	Yes	http://www.bobbrown.org.au/	Yes	http://www.abc.net.au/news/2009-0	No		Yes	https://d3n8a8pr07vfmxclo
The Clarence Environment Centre Incorporated	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.p	Yes	http://www.cec.org.au/local/C	Yes	http://www.cec.org.au/local/Glenug	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/1
The Coastwatchers Association Incorporated	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/permalink.p	Yes	http://www.coastwatchers.on	No		No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/p
The Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd	Yes	https://www.colongwilderness.org.au/fil	Yes	http://www.colongwilderness	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201504/	No		No	
The Environment Centre NT Inc	No		Yes	http://www.abc.net.au/news/	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/201505/	Yes	http://www.heraldsun.com.a	No	
The Sunrise Project Australia Limited	Yes	http://www.sunriseproject.org.au/why-w	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/s	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/convoys	No		Yes	http://www.sunriseproject.org
The Wilderness Society Inc	Yes	https://www.wilderness.org.au/articles/t	Yes	http://www.afr.com/p/business	Yes	http://www.afr.com/p/business/com	Yes	http://www.wilderness.org	Yes	https://www.wilderness.org.a
Total Environment Centre	Yes	http://www.tec.org.au/background-info	Yes	http://www.tec.org.au/image	No	http://www.cec.org.au/local/Sydney	No		No	
Victorian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	No		No		No		No		No	
Victorian National Parks Association	No		Yes	https://www.facebook.com/1	No		No		No	
Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists Foundation	No		No	Does not protest	No		No		No	
Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/WPPC.Inc/	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/V	No		No		No	
Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia Ltd	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/AustralianW	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/A	No		No		No	
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	Yes	http://wildlife.org.au/conservation/recen	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/V	No		No		No	
World Animal Protection Limited	Yes	http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.a	Yes	http://web.archive.org/web/2/	Yes	http://www.theaustralian.com.au/na	No		No	
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	Yes	http://www.wwf.org.au/?12460/More-th	Yes	http://fightforthereef.org.au/ll	No		No		Yes	http://wwf.panda.org/who_w
	72		89		43		13		66	
	67%		82%		40%	0%	12%		61%	

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Is the organisation taking (or has taken) legal action to achieve environmental objectives?	Examples	Listed on ACNC REGISTER	Small, Medium, Large	Revenue	Year to which revenue relates	Donations	Staff paid	Staff unpaid/volunteers
				S-<\$250k, M-<\$1m, L >\$1m	\$		\$	Full and part time	Where a range provided, maximum recorded.
100% Renewable Community Campaign Inc.	No		Yes	M	652,616	2014	642,549	6	100
AidWatch	No		Yes	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	15
Alternative Technology Association Inc	No		Yes	L	1,714,076	2013-2014	217,940	18	50
Arid Lands Environment Centre Inc	Yes	http://alec.org.au/images/ALEC_Annu	Yes	M	624,178	2014	108,379	7	30
Australian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	No		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Australian Climate Coolers Ltd (1 million women)	No		Yes	M	432,789	2013-2014	335,344	4	2
Australian Conservation Foundation	Yes	http://www.hrcr.org/safrica/access_cc	Yes	L	12,420,169	2013-2014	10,314,557	79	80
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	No		Yes	M	606,783	2014	513,135	6	10
Australian Environment Foundation Limited	No		Yes	S	8,362	2013-2014	3,872	0	10
Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc	Yes	http://www.marineconservation.org.au	Yes	L	456,400	2013	501,145	12	100
Australian Network of Environmental Defenders Offices Inc (ANEDO)	Yes	http://historeum.org/wiki/Australian_N	Yes	S	3,000	2014	3,000	0	9
Australian Rainforest Conservation Society Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	M	516,689	2013-2014	119,730	1	100
Australian Solar Energy Society Limited	No		Yes	L	2,421,885	2013-2014	360,464	7	50
Australian Wildlife Protection Council (Victoria) Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	S	10,955	2014	2,880	0	9
Australian Youth Climate Coalition Ltd	No		Yes	L	1,093,010	2013-2014	749,603	17	500
Ballarat Renewable Energy and Zero Emissions (B.R.E.A.Z.E.) Inc	No		Yes	M	805,445	2014	4,489	7	45
Baw Baw Sustainability Network Inc	No		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Be The Change Ltd	No		Yes	S	60,769	2014	49,908	0	70
Bendigo Sustainability Group Inc	No		Yes	S	40,608	2014	2,603	2	50
Beyond Zero Emissions Inc	No		Yes	M	603,129	2013-2014	503,029	15	200
Birdlife Australia	No	http://medianet.com.au/releases/relx	Yes	L	N/A	2013-2014	N/A	51	5,000
Blue Mountains Conservation Society	Yes	http://www.bluemountains.org.au/delt	Yes	S	NA	2013	N/A	0	50
Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute Limited	No		Yes	S	219,963	2014	0	1	10
Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association Inc	Yes	http://www.biempa.org/content/BIEPA%	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bridgetown Greenbushes Friends of the Forest Incorporated	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Busselton-Dunsborough Environment Centre Incorporated	No		No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	S	58,196	2013-2014	51,393	0	5
Caldera Environment Centre Inc	Yes	http://calderaenvironmentcentre.org/?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Capricorn Conservation Council	Yes	http://www.cccqld.org.au/media/EDO	Yes	S	65,364	2013-2014	0	1	10
Catholic Earthcare Australia Trust	No		Yes	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A
CERES [Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies] Inc	No		Yes	L	9,217,665	2013-2014	76,000	246	
Clean Energy for Eternity Inc	No		Yes	S	76,550	2013	17,140	0	6
Climate Action Network Australia Incorporated	No	http://climatejustice.org.au/about/tean	Yes	M	138,050	2013-2014	224	1	5
Climate Institute (Australia) Ltd	No	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	L	1,900,657	2013-2014	1,444,257	4	10
Community Environment Network Inc.	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	M	671,927	2013	3,879	3	50
Conservation Council ACT Region Inc	No		Yes	M	383,575	2013-2014	36,816	4	500
Conservation Council of South Australia Inc	No		Yes	L	1,421,218	FYJ14	165,992	18	500
Conservation Council of Western Australia Inc	No		Yes	M	2,296,651	2013-2014	488,533	7	50
Cool Australia Trust	No		Yes	M	861,320	2013-2014	420,094	7	10
Denmark Environment Centre Inc	No		Yes	S	64,214	2014	12,215	2	50
Doctors for the Environment (Australia)	Yes	http://dea.org.au/images/general/DE/	Yes	M	390,576	2014	335,839	4	200
Environment Defenders Office (Victoria) Ltd	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/envirojusti	Yes	M	826,788	2014	238,787	10	50
Environment East Gippsland Incorporated	Yes	http://www.eastgippsland.net.au/the-k	Yes	S	36,207	2013-2014	34,614	0	50
Environment Tasmania Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	L	1,418,676	2013-2014	594,658	26	100
Environment Victoria Inc	Yes	http://environmentvictoria.org.au/med	Yes	L	2,377,739	2013-2014	1,078,104	19	700
Environmental Defenders Office (ACT) Inc	Yes	https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net	Yes	S	130,250	2014	5,558	3	50

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				S-<\$250k, M-<\$1m, L >\$1m	\$		\$	Full and part time	Where a range provided, maximum recorded.
Environmental Defender's Office (Qld) Inc	Yes	http://www.edoqld.org.au/court-cases	Yes	S	1,514,763	2013-2014	806,516	8	49
Environmental Defenders Office (SA) Inc	Yes	http://www.edosa.org.au/case_notes	Yes	S	324,288	2014	20,783	6	50
Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc	Yes	http://www.edotas.org.au/resources/u	Yes	N/A	330,735	2014	37,190	4	10
Environmental Defender's Office Ltd	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/mackay_cr	Yes	L	3,001,005	2013-2014	828,730	20	100
Environmental Defender's Office of Northern Queensland Incorporated	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	S	341,521	2014	47,256	4	10
Environmental Defender's Office WA Inc	Yes	https://www.facebook.com/40778182	Yes	S	308,027	2013	N/A	4	5
Environs Kimberley Incorporated	Yes	http://ccwa.org.au/media/epa-fail-frac	Yes	M	979,221	2013-2014	95,099	8	52
Friends of the Earth (Melbourne) Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	L	1,207,591	2014	290,085	14	50
Friends of the Earth Australia	Yes	http://www.landcourt.qld.gov.au/docur	Yes	L	1,525,826	2013-2014	815,597	5	38
Gecko-Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council Association Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	S	214,960	2013-2014	10,220	2	50
Green Cross Australia Limited	No		Yes	M	NA	2013	N/A	6	25
Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	L	20,440,937	2014	19,430,293	63	500
Humane Society International Inc	Yes	https://www.hsi.org.au/editor/assets/k	Yes	L	2,283,734	2013-2014	2,249,845	16	10
Hunter Environment Lobby Inc	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/current_ca	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Institute of Health and Environmental Research Incorporated	No		Yes	L	1,200	2013-2014	1,200	0	50
International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives - Aus/NZ	No		Yes	M	925,075	2013-2014	282,000	6	0
Lawyers for Forests Incorporated	Yes	http://www.lawyersforforests.asn.au/r	Yes	S	50	2014	50	0	50
Living Ocean Inc	No		Yes	S	74,581	FYJ14	4,950	0	20
Lock the Gate Alliance Limited	No		Yes	M	540,884	2013-2014	233,882	0	250
Mackay Conservation Group Inc	Yes	http://www.goldcoastbulletin.com.au/r	Yes	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	10
Markets for Change Limited	No		Yes	M	19,941	2014	17,767	4	10
Mineral Policy Institute	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	15
Mount Alexander Sustainability Group Incorporated	No		Yes	S	63,701	2014	11,665	2	50
MyEnvironment Inc	Yes	https://www.greenleft.org.au/node/50	Yes	S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30
National Parks Association of New South Wales	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	L	1,100,126	2014	521,823	11	1,000
National Parks Association of Queensland	No		Yes	M	252,920	2014	43,564	N/A	N/A
National Toxics Network Incorporated	No		Yes	S	61,610	2013-2014	1,667	0	50
Nature and Society Forum Inc	No		Yes	S	28,288	2013-2014	19,050	2	10
Nature Conservation Council of NSW Inc	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/ncc_minist	Yes	L	2,937,355	2013-2014	547,695	29	100
North Queensland Conservation Council Inc	Yes	http://nqcc.org.au/2014/nqcc-sea-dun	Yes	S	N/A	2013-2014	N/A	1	12
Permaculture International Limited	No		Yes	S	19,421	2014	7,439	0	10
Protect the Kimberley Ltd	No		Yes	S	0	2014	0	0	10
Purves Environmental Trust	No		Yes	L	1,718,500	2013-2014	1,718,500	0	10
Queensland Conservation Council	Yes	http://www.edoqld.org.au/cases/quee	Yes	S	312,135	2013-2014	37,490	4	10
Rainforest Information Centre Inc	No		Yes	M	308,304	2014	296,456	0	10
SEE-Change (Society, Environment, Economy) Inc	No		Yes	S	137,132	2014	8,698	4	50
South West Environment Centre Inc	No		Yes	S	N/A	2013	N/A	0	4
STEP Inc	No		Yes	S	1,117	2014	854	0	10
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	Yes	http://www.scec.org.au/campaigns/plk	Yes	M	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Surfrider Foundation Limited	No		Yes	S	105,896	2014	47,543	2	100
Sustainable Living Foundation	No		Yes	M	N/A	2013-2014	N/A	7	300
Sustainable Living Tasmania Inc	No		Yes	L	3,010,257	2014	26,278	30	50
Sustainable Population Australia Incorporated	No		Yes	S	92,861	2013	58,911	1	15
Sustainable Table Limited	No		Yes	M	641,083	2014	525,485	6	10
Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Inc	No		Yes	S	148,413	2013-2014	75,282	0	20
Tarkine National Coalition Incorporated	Yes	http://www.ecoshout.org.au/event/taki	Yes	S	107,161	2014	103,447	1	12

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Is the organisation taking (or has taken) legal action to achieve environmental objectives?	Examples	Listed on ACNC REGISTER	Small, Medium, Large	Revenue	Year to which revenue relates	Donations	Staff paid	Staff unpaid/volunteers
				S-<\$250k, M-<\$1m, L >\$1m	\$		\$	Full and part time	Where a range provided, maximum recorded.
The Bob Brown Foundation	Yes	http://www.bobbrown.org.au/urgent_c	Yes	M	255,046	2013-2014	162,813	6	50
The Clarence Environment Centre Incorporated	Yes	http://www.echronews.com.au/news/fc	Yes	S	221,720	2013-2014	1,220	6	20
The Coastwatchers Association Incorporated	Yes	http://www.coastwatchers.org.au/wp-c	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
The Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd	Yes	http://www.bluemountains.org.au/doci	Yes	S	N/A	2013	N/A	1	10
The Environment Centre NT Inc	Yes	http://ecnt.tribersing.com/media/wate	Yes	L	0	2013-2014	N/A	10	1
The Sunrise Project Australia Limited	No		Yes	L	4,042,442	2013	N/A	7	0
The Wilderness Society Inc	Yes	http://www.smh.com.au/environment/	Yes	L	13,005,721	2013-2014	12,681,827	55	100
Total Environment Centre	No		Yes	L	1,173,807	2013-2014	491,201	16	50
Victorian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	No		Yes	S	722,004	2013	N/A	7	11
Victorian National Parks Association	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	Yes	L	1,185,666	2014	847,166	11	500
Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists Foundation	No		Yes	L	788,503	2013-2014	779,500	6	50
Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council Inc	Yes	http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinod	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia Ltd	No		Yes	S	63,225	2013	63,225	1	50
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	Yes	http://www.wildlife.org.au/news/2006/t	Yes	M	364,461	2013-2014	120,495	7	10
World Animal Protection Limited	No		Yes	L	13,452,151	2013-2014	13,379,978	50	3
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	Yes	http://theoperatives.com.au/sounds-fc	Yes	L	29,844,610	2013-2014	28,939,907	25	50
	51		101		155,226,424		106,127,372	1,074	12,968
	47%		94%					11	137

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Government grants received in latest year	Source of grants	Year to which grants relate	Has the group received government funding in last 5 years?	Does the organisation have links (either organisational or financial) to overseas groups?	Examples	Does the organisation's latest annual report or annual information statement provide a detailed breakdown of practical actions taken to improve the natural environment? Breakdown includes description of activity, date, resources (\$) employed
	\$	Aust Govt = A, State/territory = S, Local = L					
100% Renewable Community Campaign Inc.	0			No	Yes	http://www.acnc.gov.au/Docs	Limited info
AidWatch	N/A			No	Yes	http://www.aidwatch.org.au/v	No info on 'on-ground' action
Alternative Technology Association Inc	25,000	A	2014	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Arid Lands Environment Centre Inc	306,622	A; S	2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	Limited info
Australian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	N/A	A; S		Yes	Yes	http://www.aaee.org.au/ (see	No info on 'on-ground' action
Australian Climate Coolers Ltd (1 million women)	97,445	A; S	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://wecaninternational.org	Limited info
Australian Conservation Foundation	58,076		2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.acfonline.org.au/t	Limited info
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	0			No	Yes	http://webcache.googleusercontent.com	No info on 'on-ground' action
Australian Environment Foundation Limited	0			No	Yes	http://www.climate-science.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc	0	A;S	2012	Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/about/un	No info on 'on-ground' action
Australian Network of Environmental Defenders Offices Inc (ANEDO)	0			Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/about/un	No info on 'on-ground' action
Australian Rainforest Conservation Society Inc	193,000	N/A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/about/un	Limited info
Australian Solar Energy Society Limited	0			Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Australian Wildlife Protection Council (Victoria) Inc	0			No	No		Limited info
Australian Youth Climate Coalition Ltd	95,582	A	FYJ14	Yes	Yes	http://globalpowershift.org/at	No info on 'on-ground' action
Ballarat Renewable Energy and Zero Emissions (B.R.E.A.Z.E.) Inc	0			Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Baw Baw Sustainability Network Inc	N/A			No	No		N/A
Be The Change Ltd	5,450		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.generationwaking	No info on 'on-ground' action
Bendigo Sustainability Group Inc	7,208		2014	Yes	No		Limited info
Beyond Zero Emissions Inc	0		2013-2014	No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Birdlife Australia	22,000	A	2014-15	Yes	Yes	http://www.birdlife.org/pacific	Limited info
Blue Mountains Conservation Society	4,000	A	2013-2014	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute Limited	160,666		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/knowledge	Limited info
Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association Inc	N/A			Yes	No		Limited info
Bridgetown Greenbushes Friends of the Forest Incorporated	N/A		N/A	No	Yes	https://au.linkedin.com/pub/r	N/A
Busselton-Dunsborough Environment Centre Incorporated	N/A		N/A	No	No		N/A
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre Inc	25,000	A	2013-14	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Caldera Environment Centre Inc	N/A			Yes	No		N/A
Capricorn Conservation Council	50,000	S	2014	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Catholic Earthcare Australia Trust	N/A		2013	No	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
CERES [Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies] Inc	221,000			Yes	Yes	http://www.ceres.org.au/glob	Limited info
Clean Energy for Eternity Inc	58,000	S	2013	Yes	No		Limited info
Climate Action Network Australia Incorporated	5,000	N/A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Climate Institute (Australia) Ltd	40,000	N/A	FYJ14	Yes	Yes	http://www.climateinstitute.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Community Environment Network Inc.	27,000	A	2013	Yes	No		Limited info
Conservation Council ACT Region Inc	292,672	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	Limited info
Conservation Council of South Australia Inc	246,555	N/A	FYJ14	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Conservation Council of Western Australia Inc	93,644	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-reality.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Cool Australia Trust	115,000	N/A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-reality.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Denmark Environment Centre Inc	2,486		2014	Yes	No		Limited info
Doctors for the Environment (Australia)	0			Yes	Yes	http://www.isde.org/ ; http://d	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environment Defenders Office (Victoria) Ltd	398,945		2014	Yes	Yes	https://envirojustice.org.au/d	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environment East Gippsland Incorporated	0			No	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	Limited info
Environment Tasmania Inc	775,411	N/A	2014-2015	Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/ ; http://w	Limited info
Environment Victoria Inc	616,083	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environmental Defenders Office (ACT) Inc	120,530		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/in	No info on 'on-ground' action

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Government grants received in latest year	Source of grants	Year to which grants relate	Has the group received government funding in last 5 years?	Does the organisation have links (either organisational or financial) to overseas groups?	Examples	Does the organisation's latest annual report or annual information statement provide a detailed breakdown of practical actions taken to improve the natural environment? Breakdown includes description of activity, date, resources (\$) employed
	\$	Aust Govt = A, State/territory = S, Local = L					
Environmental Defender's Office (Qld) Inc	283,573		2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/in	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environmental Defenders Office (SA) Inc	293,964		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/in	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc	250,369		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/in	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environmental Defender's Office Ltd	588,301		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environmental Defender's Office of Northern Queensland Incorporated	290,060		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/in	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environmental Defender's Office WA Inc	N/A		2013	Yes	Yes	http://www.edonsw.org.au/in	No info on 'on-ground' action
Environs Kimberley Incorporated	725,959	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://webcache.googleusercontent.com	Limited info
Friends of the Earth (Melbourne) Inc	1,900	N/A	2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.thegreenpledge.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Friends of the Earth Australia	300,627	govt		Yes	Yes	http://www.melbourne.foe.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Gecko-Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council Association Inc	5,000	A ; L	2013-2014	Yes	No		Limited info
Green Cross Australia Limited	N/A			Yes	Yes	http://www.greencrossaustralia.org	Limited info
Greenpeace Australia Pacific Limited	0	0		No	Yes	http://www.greenpeace.org/au	No info on 'on-ground' action
Humane Society International Inc	0			Yes	Yes	http://www.hsi.org.au/qofa/q	Limited info
Hunter Environment Lobby Inc	N/A			No	No		N/A
Institute of Health and Environmental Research Incorporated	0			No	Yes	http://sustainablepulse.com/	No info on 'on-ground' action
International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives - Aus/NZ	120,075	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://archive.iclei.org/index.php	No info on 'on-ground' action
Lawyers for Forests Incorporated	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Living Ocean Inc	0			No	No		Limited info
Lock the Gate Alliance Limited	0			No	Yes	http://www.abc.net.au/media	No info on 'on-ground' action
Mackay Conservation Group Inc	0		N/A	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Markets for Change Limited	0			No	No	http://www.onlineopinion.com.au	Limited info
Mineral Policy Institute	0		N/A	Yes	Yes	An Australian affiliate member of	No info on 'on-ground' action
Mount Alexander Sustainability Group Incorporated	34,868		2014	Yes	No		Limited info
MyEnvironment Inc	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
National Parks Association of New South Wales	326,451		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/about/un	Limited info
National Parks Association of Queensland	65,465		2014	Yes	No		Limited info
National Toxics Network Incorporated	0			No	Yes	http://www.ntn.org.au/our-pa	No info on 'on-ground' action
Nature and Society Forum Inc	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Nature Conservation Council of NSW Inc	2,334,586	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://aciucn.org.au/index.php	No info on 'on-ground' action
North Queensland Conservation Council Inc	19,944	S	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-reality.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Permaculture International Limited	0			No	No		Limited info
Protect the Kimberley Ltd	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Purves Environmental Trust	0			No	Yes	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C	Limited info
Queensland Conservation Council	635,000	A	2013-2014	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Rainforest Information Centre Inc	0			No	Yes	Australian affiliate member of	No info on 'on-ground' action
SEE-Change (Society, Environment, Economy) Inc	122,466	S	2011-2015	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-reality.org	Limited info
South West Environment Centre Inc	N/A		N/A	No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
STEP Inc	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	30,000	A; L	2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Surfrider Foundation Limited	0			No	Yes	http://www.surfrider.org/char	No info on 'on-ground' action
Sustainable Living Foundation	0		2013	Yes	No		N/A
Sustainable Living Tasmania Inc	204,179		2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climate-network.org	Limited info
Sustainable Population Australia Incorporated	0			No	Yes	Annual Report - http://www.sustainablepopulation.org.au	No info on 'on-ground' action
Sustainable Table Limited	0			No	No		Limited info
Sutherland Shire Environment Centre Inc	0		2013-2014	No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Tarkine National Coalition Incorporated	0			No			No info on 'on-ground' action

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Name of Environmental Organisation	Government grants received in latest year	Source of grants	Year to which grants relate	Has the group received government funding in last 5 years?	Does the organisation have links (either organisational or financial) to overseas groups?	Examples	Does the organisation's latest annual report or annual information statement provide a detailed breakdown of practical actions taken to improve the natural environment? Breakdown includes description of activity, date, resources (\$) employed
	\$	Aust Govt = A, State/territory = S, Local = L					
The Bob Brown Foundation	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
The Clarence Environment Centre Incorporated	194,830	A	2014	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
The Coastwatchers Association Incorporated	N/A			No	No		N/A
The Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd	0	A		Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
The Environment Centre NT Inc	45,000	A; S	2013-2014	Yes	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
The Sunrise Project Australia Limited	0			No	Yes	http://www.tides.org/fileadm	No info on 'on-ground' action
The Wilderness Society Inc	0			No	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/about/un	No info on 'on-ground' action
Total Environment Centre	401,993	A	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.climatenetwork.org	No info on 'on-ground' action
Victorian Association for Environmental Education Incorporated	98,754		2013	Yes	Yes	http://www.aeee.org.au/ (see	Limited info
Victorian National Parks Association	29,408		2014	Yes	No		Limited info
Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists Foundation	0			No	No		No info on 'on-ground' action
Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council Inc	N/A			No	No		N/A
Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia Ltd	N/A		2013	Yes	No		Limited info
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	107,258	A; S	2013-2014	Yes	No		Limited info
World Animal Protection Limited	N/A			No	Yes	http://www.worldanimalprote	No info on 'on-ground' action
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	703,979	A; S	2013-2014	Yes	Yes	http://www.iucn.org/about/un	Limited info
	12,276,384			69	64		
				64%	59%		