

Committee Secretary Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and
the Arts PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Australia
To whom it may concern,

Re: Submission to inquiry about Green Loans Program

Yaubula is an environmental non-profit organisation. We operate an environmental business to support our sustainable development projects around the world. We saw the Green Loans program as a great way to provide a service to our members and contacts, whilst doubling as support from our environmental projects.

We have been working with a registered assessor, under a contract arrangement, since January and have undertaken around 50 assessments.

We also paid for training, ABSA membership and insurance for a second assessor whom we are waiting to hear about accreditation. We have submitted 2 email requests to the department and numerous phone calls regarding the status of Yaubula's contract with the government. We know that the government has received the contract because we have confirmation from registered mail.

The financial outlay for this was \$2,851. Other than financial outlay, a lot of time has been spent on setting up and marketing the program. This is a lot of time and money for a small non-profit to outlay with no income to support the return of these funds. We have to loan money to cover the short fall whilst we wait to hear what is going on with our second assessor and the future of the program.

The cap of 5 assessments per week limits our ability to make a return on investment from the program and reduces the ability for our assessor to earn a decent income from the Green Loans program. Our two assessors prefer to work with us as opposed to operating on their own to make the use of our contacts and online booking system. They would not be able to book the same amount of assessments without our organisation supporting them.

We have found the delays in time it takes for reports to be delivered to householders as an issue that should be addressed.

We hope to keep operating under the Green Loans program as we feel, if improved, the program provides a valuable service to householders.

Regards,

Hayley Giachin
Founder & CEO
Yaubula