

**To:** [Committee, EC \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION: The Abbott Government's attacks on Australia's environment, and their effects on our natural heritage and future prosperity.  
**Date:** Thursday, 28 August 2014 12:15:51 AM

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The following is my submission to the above enquiry.

The current Abbott led LNP Government has to be the most environmentally destructive regime since Federation, and assisted by the State LNP Governments.

The destruction is particularly apparent in States such as Tasmania and Queensland, but NSW and Victoria are almost as equally disgusting.

The proposal to log pristine forests including World Heritage Areas, the proposals to not only dredge, but dump the fill in World Heritage Reef Areas are equally atrocious!

We have coal mining and CSG companies riding roughshod over so many Australian property owners and occupiers, often with Government assistance to the extent that Governments will alter laws just so the mining giants will win court cases against local communities.

We have State/Federal Governments killing our native wild life....one example - the Pacific Highway Upgrade south of Ballina and the NSW Roads Authority planning the road deviation through forest containing three Koala colonies! This has been supported by the Claytons Minister for the Environment Hunt rubber stamping the approval subject to conditions that will not save the Koalas.....more extinctions on the way for the Country that has the biggest rate of extinctions in the World!

Tony Abbott is in the process of handing federal environmental approval powers over to the very state governments who have threatened our national parks with logging, mining, grazing and shooting. We need environment laws that protect against conflicts of interest like this, so approval of Federally significant impacts should stay in Federal hands.

Across the country environment groups and Environment Defenders Offices have had their long-standing federal funding completely abolished by the Abbott Government, on top of the Biodiversity Fund being cut. This is despite many environmental indicators being in decline and unacceptable extinction rates. Supporting the community to protect and advocate on behalf of the environment is a most effective investment in our future and should not be cut.

The Prime Minister has hacked away at action to tackle climate change, sacrificing our children and grandchildren's futures, for the private profits of the big polluters.

Even our most iconic environmental assets, which are part of our national identity and provide sustainable jobs in tourism, are in jeopardy, with Tony Abbott threatening the World Heritage status of old-growth forests in Tasmania and the Great Barrier Reef.

Australians love our environment, from our internationally renowned natural wonders to our local national parks, so Tony Abbott's attacks affect us all.

Please show the Australian people that the Australian Parliament is not a completely corrupt and useless institution and take some decisive action to make restitution to this life giving Country that supports us all.

**THERE HAS TO BE MORE THAN CORPORATE AND POLITICAL GREED  
THAT MAKES LIVES WORTHWHILE!**

Ken Brown