

26 February 2010

Senate Finance and Public
Administration Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia.

I wish to submit the following submission:

The property rights of Australians are being eroded and if vegetation is not allowed to be cleared, then landholders should be well compensated for the reduction of carbon emissions created by industry.

Land still has to be maintained with ongoing control of weeds and feral animals. Weeds can flourish if left uncontrolled, spreading widely and impacting on agricultural production. Some weeds can also increase fire risk. Vegetation can harbour feral animals which can destroy crops and pastures, spread disease and kill native animals and birds. The survival of many threatened species is dependent on the control of feral animals.

Not only does the landholder have to incur these expenses, there are also rates which have to be paid on that land.

How is this fair?

Landholders do 'toil with hearts and hands' as our Anthem states, and they deserve to be compensated for land from which they cannot derive any income.

Yours faithfully,

Cathy Wegener