

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

Dear Committee

SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE COMMISSION ENQUIRY

Our family bought 1,246 acres of good timber sixty years ago; I tried to convert the crown lease to "Freehold Title" on different occasions, each time a different answer, so I settled for "Perpetual Crown Lease". I gave it to my son six years ago so I may be able to get the pension. He has been trying to convert the lease to "Freehold" ever since, with no avail. With the vegetation laws we cannot improve the land for grazing, we can not sell it as there is a mining lease over it as well. The timber is worth a small fortune, but again the Vegetation rules prevent us from harvesting this, so this timber is just waiting to get burnt from a lightning strike as the neighbours will not burn.

We have to pay rates on this country, rates are determined at the highest possible value, with no regards of the effect of the vegetation laws. We also have to attempt to eradicate weeds and manage fire, all at our expense, with no return while the current laws are in place.

I have a friend that was employed by the World Bank to travel all over the world checking on soils. He was sent to Russia where the farmers were told by the Government what to plant and to put super phosphate with urea on whatever crop they were forced to plant, also when to cultivate. He said the soil in the Black Forest was excellent, but the cultivated soil was ruined from the wrong fertilizer. If a farmer did not get a good crop the Communist soldier would come and replace another farmer on that land. The advisor told me he thought there would be a revolution. It was not long until all the farmers revolted. Australia is going down the same path. Peter Spencer started the revolt and unfortunately over FIVE HUNDRED farmers have committed suicide, since the vegetation laws were introduced, instead of the greenies that have caused the problem. Farmers can aerate the soil to keep the carbon in while improving their country.

Climate change is only a heap of garbage. Jet planes and motor vehicles cause pollution. Go to wind, solar and water to generate electricity. Close the national parks and put the animals back on to reduce the fire hazard. Old trees take in oxygen while young trees produce oxygen.

Scrap all restrictions on Farmers and go back to the constitution to save a blood bath.

Yours faithfully

W.G. Hamilton