

Warhurst, Di (SEN)

From: Meg & John Smyth
Sent: Tuesday, 20 December 2005 5:35 PM
To: ECITA, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Fw: National Reserve System enquiry Environment, Technology and Arts Standing Committee.

----- Original Message -----

From: Meg & John Smyth
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2005 4:56 PM
Subject: National Reserve System enquiry Environment, Technology and Arts Standing Committee.

Environment, Technology and Arts Standing Committee.

On behalf of Bushland Conservation Pty. Ltd. I submit these comments relevant to the Federal Senate Inquiry into the National Reserve System. This Private Company of 30 years standing started purchasing quality bushland in SA in 1975, eventually placing 1,960 hectares under Heritage Agreement covenant with the SA Government, and managing the land exclusively for flora and fauna conservation. Our latest purchase in 1999 was assisted by a grant from the NRS component of NHT. We were very grateful to receive this grant, enabling our membership (shareholders of the Company, who also constitute the membership of Bushland Conservation Landcare Group) to use their financial inputs to manage the land according to the Management Plan.

We contend that the partnership between the Federal Government and the private sector, provided by the NRS grants, should continue. If suitable adjoining land to any of our holdings should come on the market, we would be greatly assisted in raising the purchase price if we can again avail ourselves of a grant from NRS.

Yours faithfully, John Smyth. (Secretary, Bushland Conservation Pty. Ltd.)