
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 27 July 2012 9:33 AM
To: EHPP Landscapes & Ecosystems Section Mailbox
Subject: submission on draft

to whom it may concern, For the past 17 years we have been in limbo since the introduction of the sepp 46 act and the preceeding native veg regulations. Our family has lived in this immediate area for 135 years and we have an affinity with this land which goes beyond most peoples comprehension. My grand father and father acquired this property in 1964, a year before the 1965 drought, and have battled all natural and economic conditions since. Nothing has caused us as much dispare, for such a long time, as these environmental laws. While many farms were cleared in previous years we have worked carefully to maintain biodiversity and habitat while improving the sustainability of our farm. In conversation with C.M.A personel over the prevoius years this approach to our farm development gives us no more benefit than had we clean cleared our farm years ago. Can you explain to me how i should feel warm and fuzzy inside for my environmental approach when with 350 of our 800 hectare farm undeveloped i am made an environmental vandal and a criminal for removing 1 tree. I would be quite happy to leave much of the farm covered in thick scrub and invasive native appecies if i could be compensated for my lost production but it seems to me that this environmental debt must be shouldered by me and most other farmers in nsw. The remaining residents of our fair state can feel warm and fuzzy in the knowledge that all this land is protected from the custodians who have cared for it for generations already. I am unable to give an opinion on how to make this act workable without tearing it up and starting again and giving more consideration to individual circumstances and socio- economic impacts of what ever act will replace this farcical document. I have never protested in my life or written letters to papers in regard to any issues but i must admit that the comments made by environmentalists on farmers attendance to forums concerning this issue have inspired me to action. I may be a vocal minoritist, i may be an extremist, you make up your mind. I would appreciate a reply to this submission, you will never know how long it has taken me to type this, but you now know how long i have farmed and loved this land. Regards Dean Skewes.