

Comments on Deforestation In Australia from a Western Australian scientist: *Re: Oakeshott's Disallowance Motion 2012 to allow burning native forests for energy and subsidising it as a so called renewable energy*

Forty-four (44) Mega tonnes of CO₂equivalent was released in 2010 through deforestation and land use change. This increased by over 3% in 2011 to 45 Megatonnes of CO₂ equivalent. This is 12% of our total Greenhouse gas emissions per year - from deforestation. While on the other hand, afforestation and reforestation removes 25 Megatonnes of CO₂ equivalent from our environment through the planting of trees and this has not increased from 2010 to 2011. These statistics come from page 11 of the Department of Climate Change quarterly report:
<http://www.climatechange.gov.au/-/media/climate-change/emissions/2011-09/NGGI-Sept-quarter-2011-PDF.pdf>

This means that we are cutting down more trees etc than we are planting each year in Australia. Waste from Native forest logging was deliberately excluded from the original agreement - to prevent logging of native forests. Including and allowing the burning of waste from native, old growth forest to be included as renewable energy and eligible for renewable energy credits is wrong and will increase native forest logging. I ask that you withdraw your motion to allow burning of waste from native old growth forest to be classed as renewable energy. I think it is naive to think that native forest wont be cut down if this bill is passed. The previous Bill understood this and this condition was put in to protect native forests. Do not remove this protection by claiming it is about "recycling"

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