

Submission to the Productivity Commission on Proposed EPBC Act Reforms

To the Productivity Commission,

The proposal to streamline approvals for industrial-scale renewable energy projects under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) is deeply concerning and fundamentally flawed. Expediting these projects with reduced scrutiny, driven by the ideological narrative of an urgent "energy transition," prioritizes dogma over science and risks irreparable harm to threatened species and local communities.

Science is not a monolith; it thrives in a state of constant flux, questioning, and revision. The current push for renewables hinges on the contested claim of catastrophic man-made climate change—a hypothesis increasingly challenged by evidence and debate, yet propped up by funding-driven agendas rather than rigorous inquiry. To waive rigorous EPBC assessments based on this premise is reckless and betrays the precautionary principle. Every project must undergo a full, transparent evaluation to assess its environmental and social impacts, ensuring decisions are grounded in evidence, not ideology.

Approving projects without due caution disregards the dynamic nature of scientific understanding. Should future evidence further debunk the climate crisis narrative, those responsible for fast-tracking these projects will be accountable for bypassing proper process, potentially at the cost of biodiversity and community wellbeing. I demand that all renewable energy projects adhere to the EPBC Act's full assessment framework, with no concessions to ideological pressures. Science, not a gravy train, must guide our environmental stewardship.

Kind regards

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