

Subject: RE: DO NOT BURN Our Precious Native Forests

Dear Michelle

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Renewable Energy Target (RET). As the only independent Senator for Queensland, Senator Lazarus is driven by people policy not party policy.

Senator Lazarus is a strong supporter of the RET and the need for Australia to invest in and support the renewable energy sector. Senator Lazarus would like Australia to move towards increased use of and reliance on renewable energy, in particular solar energy. The majority of the people of Queensland support renewable energy.

Sadly, the Coalition did a dirty deal with the Labor party to reduce Australia's renewable energy target (RET) from 41,000 gigawatts to 33,000. Australia is NOW the only country in the world to reduce a RET.

The Senator has put forward a range of recommendations to address the damage caused by the Abbott Government:

- Reinststate the RET to 41,000
- Facilitate the establishment of large scale solar energy generation projects
- Put in place protections to stop the devastation of native forests
- Form a national 'feed in tariff' program to improve returns for roof top solar users
- Increase incentives to assist people and businesses to install roof top solar

Please be assured that Senator Lazarus is doing everything he can to make Australia a fair and prosperous country and will continue to work hard to achieve these goals. Thank you again for taking the time to contact our office. Please feel free to contact our office with any further concerns or ideas you may have.

Kind regards

Erin Allan  
On behalf of Senator Glenn Lazarus

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

Subject: DO NOT BURN Our Precious Native Forests

To Senators Xenophon, Muir, Leyonhjelm, Lazarus, Lambie, Wang, Madigan and Day,

Our native forests are precious havens that protect our unique wildlife. We have a responsibility to pass these areas onto future generations - still intact!!!

We have a terrible record in Australia for ensuring our natural areas remain natural. Recently we have seen mining and coal seam gas extrication get priority in areas where the community voice against them has been ignored.

It is imperative that our precious forests are protected from all things that threaten them - ecological thinning - a term that makes us think it is a conservation-based scheme when often it is a more ecologically-friendly term for logging, logging itself, mining, clearing for development and now

burning for our renewable energy targets!!! Just WHAT will we be leaving for future generations of Australians?? I want to be proud of our generation - not ashamed.

CONSERVATION is vitally important to many Australian people and many of us visit, walk in and enjoy the natural environment and wildlife in our forests. I do not want to lead groups into a forest where there are large scars where the trees have been burnt - burning is just as bad, if not worse, than logging our forest areas. LEAVE THEM ALONE!!!

Burning native forests is not a renewable energy solution. I urge you to reject the Government's push to include energy generated by burning native forest products in the Renewable Energy Target and support a strong target that promotes genuine renewable energy industries like solar.

Sincerely,

Michelle Rower

cc: The Hon Mark Butler, Shadow Minister for the Environment.