

Submission
No 30

INQUIRY INTO INTEGRITY OF THE NSW BIODIVERSITY OFFSETS SCHEME

Name: Mrs Leanne George

Date Received: 29 August 2021

As a proud Australian, I deeply value our country and our unique wildlife. As an individual Australian, I am concerned by the threat that our wildlife is under. It is powerless and vulnerable and completely dependent upon the decisions made the government as our representatives. Financial competition and greed are driving forces that are destroying so much that we, as a society, value and need. Biodiversity offsets that are shams or 'greenwash', achieve very little in actually protecting our native fauna and flora. I am concerned that industry's pressure and deep pockets influence our governments to ignore their negative impact on our natural places. Industry's profit cannot justify our environmental losses - nor can it ever replace what we and future generations will lose.

I am not alone in feeling this. Others I talk to feel the same. During the 2019-2020 bush fires the enormous grief for and donations from my fellow Australians and others from abroad highlighted the concern that society has for our wildlife and fauna.

I hope that this Committee review will recognize that the threat of loss of habitat by stealth, driven by greed and inadequate legislation, form a much greater threat than that of any natural disasters. Please protect our unique irreplaceable wildlife and fauna.