

01\_TimFlannery\_NRSIE\_RIS.txt

From: Kerry Scott  
Sent: Friday, 2 July 2010 5:00 PM  
To: Haemish Middleton  
Subject: FW: To the DEHWA RIS re small engine emissions

Kerry Scott | Project Manager | NEPC Service Corporation | Tel: (08) 8419 1202 | Mob: 0421 288 105 | Fax: (08) 8224 0912 | Level 5, 81 Flinders Street, Adelaide SA 5000 | Website: [www.ephc.gov.au](http://www.ephc.gov.au) The information in this email may be confidential and/or legally privileged. Use or disclosure of the information by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this email in error, please advise by return email or by telephoning + 61 8 8419 1200.

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

From: Tim Flannery [mailto:Tim.Flannery@textpublishing.com.au]  
Sent: Friday, 2 July 2010 4:12 PM  
To: Kerry Scott  
Subject: To the DEHWA RIS re small engine emissions

Dear Mr Scott,

I'd like to make a submission to the inquiry you are leading into small engine emissions standards in Australia. It follows a more detailed letter I wrote to Minister Garret in 2008.

I believe that there is an option to make an immediate impact on emissions, and at the same time save the public money, reduce fuel imports and reduce landfill. Australia has emission controls on cars, but none on small engines like lawn mowers and outboard engines. These unregulated engines have disproportionately high emissions. As one DEWH report explains, a lawn mower has forty times the emissions of a car.

Two stroke outboard engines are even worse - they are much larger than lawn mowers and empty their exhaust into the water before it bubbles up into the air - so they are a source of both water and air pollution. The most polluting model sold in Australia puts out over 19.6 kg of emissions in an hour. This is a USA made product that can no longer be sold in that country, Europe, Japan, Brazil and a host of other countries with emission regulations on small engines.

The Chairman of the Outboard industry peak body (OEDA) Mr David Heyes has called for world standard emissions regulation of outboards starting January 2010. We have low emission products available on the store shelves - but the high emission products continue to hold 62% to 73% of the market because they seem cheaper. They are cheaper to buy, but use some 40% more fuel, mixed with oil. The low emission products last much longer - meaning less land fill. In the end the low emission product don't cost any more.

I believe that we could start to save one million tonnes p.a. of greenhouse gasses p.a., if we only introduced small engine emission standards. Not only that, we would reduce our imports of petrol by four hundred and fifty million litres a year.

Lets start now. This is an easy fix and there is no reason to delay. Right now we are ten years behind the northern hemisphere in regulating the disproportionate emissions of these small engines.

Yours sincerely

Tim Flannery  
Australian of the Year 2007