

25/07/10

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Re: REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM NON-ROAD SPARK IGNITION ENGINES AND
EQUIPMENT – CONSULTATION REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT

As someone who has been involved in the garden & landscaping industry for approximately 30 years, My concerns are that:

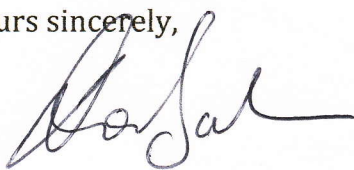
- There are studies that shown that conventional two stroke engines used for backyard maintenance (whether mowers, blowers, brush cutters, chain saws or other petrol driven equipment) contribute 60% of the volatile organic compounds from all non road engines.
- Pollutants from two-stroke equipment have been measured and found to be 11 times the volume of pollutants of 4-stroke equipment.
- Health studies have shown that there are health impacts associated with exposure to these pollutants even at low levels

I understand that the Outdoor Power Equipment Association is in support of emissions standards. It would seem a reasonable decision to phase out two-stroke equipment – in a fair way so that financial losses don't occur to current owners of these products.

We have carried stories of high emission products us in recent years via our TV, radio & magazine activities and disseminated knowledge gained from tests and reports of the pollutants caused by backyard equipment so that Australia can achieve more environmentally friendly backyards.

Politicians have for years regulated the emissions from cars and its about time we did the same for garden equipment and caught up with the rest of the world.

Yours sincerely,



Don Burke, FAIH, OAM