

Dear Department,

Re consultation draft of the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy.

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I am a volunteer of the Friends of Mosman Park Bushland. It is quite obvious that as much as we work hard for the revegetation of this bushland, what is involved in revegetation will take years and years before reaching any degree of similarity to the original. Our experience demonstrates that only half the plants in Mosman Park can be grown by seed or cuttings. Offsetting land to be revegetated for clearing remnant bushland could still have devastating effect for the long term maintenance of local biodiversity.

The economics of the plan would have to make preference for retaining existing bushland against "buying" into a revegetation plan. I understand it is better than not balancing anything at all. However revegetation will never equal existing bushland.

Thanks for your consideration

Best regards

Agnes Michelet