

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Ref: **Secrecy**

REGISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS— **Secrecy**

[Redacted]

Key Points:

- [Redacted] **Secrecy** [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]
- Section 30-285 of the Act provides the Minister and the Assistant Treasurer may issue a direction to the Environment Secretary to remove an organisation from the Register. The Guidelines state the removal process involves two warning letters, before the submission of an instrument of removal for consideration by the Minister and the (acting) Assistant Treasurer.
- [Redacted] **Secrecy** [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]
- | [Redacted]

Secrecy

[Redacted text block containing multiple paragraphs of blacked-out content]

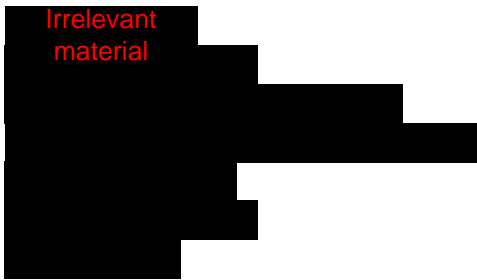
**Background:**

- The Minister is a statutory decision maker for the Register under the Act and an organisation can only be entered onto the Register if both the Minister and the Assistant

Treasurer, acting for and on behalf of the Treasurer, issue a direction to the Environment Secretary to do so. As per section 30-280(2) of the Act, this direction can only be made if the Minister has notified the (acting) Assistant Treasurer in writing that the Minister is satisfied the organisation is an environmental organisation.

- To be satisfied that an applicant organisation is an environmental organisation, the Minister must be satisfied that it meets the membership, structure and compliance requirements outlined in the Act.
- The Minister must also be satisfied that the organisation meets the 'principal purpose test', meaning that the organisation's principal purpose is either:
  - the protection and enhancement of the natural environment or of a significant aspect of the natural environment; or
  - the provision of information or education, or the carrying on of research, about the natural environment or a significant aspect of the natural environment.
- There is no requirement for an environmental organisation to conduct activities that are in line with Government policy, however section 30-280(4) of the Act states: "The Treasurer and the Environment Minister must have regard to the policies and budgetary priorities of the Commonwealth Government in deciding whether to give a direction."

Irrelevant material



**ATTACHMENTS**



Secrecy