# Government Decisions & Environmental Legislation

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## Background

Government decisions and environmental legislation play an important role in protecting Australia's natural environment. They guide how we protect biodiversity, manage natural resources, reduce pollution, and respond to environmental challenges.

Good legislation provides a strong foundation for protecting the environment. When environmental policies are based on sound evidence and applied consistently, they help conserve ecosystems, encourage responsible stewardship of natural resources, and create a healthier environment for future generations.

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## HOPE Inc. (Australia)'s Position

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (Australia) believes that responsible environmental stewardship depends on strong, transparent, and evidence-based government decision-making.

We support environmental laws and policies that protect biodiversity, conserve natural resources, strengthen resilience to climate change, and encourage sustainable development. Environmental decisions should be guided by the best available evidence, consider long-term environmental outcomes, and provide genuine opportunities for community involvement.

As a politically independent organisation, HOPE Inc. (Australia) supports policies and legislative frameworks that strengthen environmental protection and encourage responsible stewardship, regardless of political affiliation. Our focus remains on protecting the environment through responsible and effective stewardship.

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## Why This Position Matters

The choices made today will shape the environment that future generations inherit. Strong environmental legislation helps protect Australia's unique ecosystems, encourages responsible stewardship of natural resources, and provides a clear foundation for informed and accountable environmental decision-making.

When policies are inconsistent or focused on short-term outcomes, environmental protection can suffer, and public confidence in the government can be weakened. HOPE Inc. (Australia) believes the best environmental decisions are those that are transparent, evidence-based, and developed through collaboration between governments, First Nations peoples, researchers, businesses, community organisations, and the wider community.

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## Key Advocacy Priorities

HOPE Inc. (Australia) advocates for:

- transparent, accountable, and evidence-based environmental decision-making;
- strong environmental legislation that protects biodiversity, ecosystems, and natural resources;
- long-term planning that supports sustainable development and intergenerational responsibility;
- meaningful opportunities for public participation in environmental policy and decision-making;
- collaboration between governments, First Nations peoples, researchers, businesses, and community organisations; and
- regular review and improvement of environmental legislation to respond to emerging environmental challenges.

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## HOPE Inc. (Australia)’s Commitment

HOPE Inc. (Australia) is committed to promoting responsible and sustainable stewardship of the environment through education, advocacy, collaboration, and community engagement.

We will continue to encourage informed public participation, support evidence-based environmental policy, work collaboratively with partner organisations, and promote practical actions that contribute to a healthier and more sustainable future.

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## Closing Statement

This Position Statement reflects HOPE Inc. (Australia)’s commitment to advocating for responsible and sustainable stewardship of the environment. It supports the objectives of the **HOPE Strategic Plan 2024–2029** and provides the foundation for HOPE Inc. (Australia)'s advocacy, partnerships, and community engagement on **Government Decisions & Environmental Legislation**.

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**Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (Australia)**

**Position Statement Series | HOPE Strategic Plan 2024–2029**