

14 January 2009

Electoral Reform Secretariat
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Re : Donations, Funding and Expenditure.

Dear Sir/Madam,

As someone who is an active member of a political party, I feel this Reform Agenda is long over due. I have studied the Green Paper, particularly Chapter Eleven's Questions; I am taken back, not by the complexity of the questions (as they are fortunately referenced), but by the diversity of the discussion points, within the questions, through-out the paper. It would be an easy task to pseudo- intellectualize from the multitude of questions that understandably arise from reading this paper, without a reaching a balanced conclusion.

This well researched Paper certainly notes the complex side issues, but needs "lively spirited open" community discussion to be understood in its entirety in our diverse national community, before (and not 'after') it is "packaged" for Cabinet.

This Reform will improve Australian Politics for the better, as the present structure desperately needs amending. I personally favor the Canadian Electoral Model with disclosed Corporate/Industry/Public Capping. Hopefully this model will induce greater citizen participation at the polls, but would or does it? Many questions are raised in this Paper, but few Comparative Charts and Graphs are included for cross-referencing to satisfy the myriad of discussion points within.