

To the Honourable Josh Frydenberg

Dear Minister,

How proud and hopeful I felt when, under the Gillard government, we implemented such a visionary and proactive step as to designate vast areas of our coastline as Marine National Parks. At last it appeared we were behaving like responsible and far-seeing global citizens.

We recognised the importance of preserving our beautiful marine habitats for all the unique creatures that rely on them, and for future generations of people. We were applauded internationally for our leadership.

Now, what a shock it is to hear this week that huge areas of these marine parks are being excised from environmental regulation and protection, and are being opened up for exploitation by large-scale commercial fishing and trawling.

Being enlightened world leaders was just a dream, after all! Instead our government has allowed the myopia of 'business as usual' to water down its stance on marine conservation. Instead of walking bravely forwards it has chosen to walk confidently backwards. How quickly can we become a 'dopey' country??

A Cree Indian Prophecy:

*When all the trees have been cut down,
When all the animals have been hunted,
When all the waters are polluted,
When all the air is unsafe to breathe,
Only then will you discover
You cannot eat money.*

Sincerely,
Bogunia Bensaude

Sent from my iPad