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## **NEW REPORT: AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY UNSUSTAINABLY TRANSFORMED BY GREEN MOVEMENT, INCREASING BUSINESS AND CONSUMER COSTS**

'The influence of the green movement is unsustainably transforming the Australian economy by creating false industry foundations and restrictions that adds costs for business and consumers', said Tim Wilson, Director of the IP and Free Trade Unit today.

Mr Wilson's comments follow a new report released today, *An Unsustainable Economic Transformation: How green groups are creating false foundations and restricting the Australian economy*.

'This report analyses the influence green groups are now having on the Australian economy through policies such as a carbon tax and mandated certification schemes for primary industry products that are restricting the economy and creating false industry foundations', Mr Wilson said.

'Economic reforms and trade liberalization removed these unsustainable economic distortions, but on environmental grounds, the green movement is bringing them back.

'A carbon tax acts as an internal tariff protecting select unviable industries and taxes out of business those that are competitive.

'Legally required certification schemes on imports add costs and undermine the benefits of free trade where exporting nations can take advantage of their natural resources.

'Often green groups are colluding to successfully lead an assault to advocate for unsustainable economic reform that will cost business and consumers.

'The only 'winners' from this economic transformation are green groups and their allies who will be able to rent-seek from business restrictions and the false foundations a carbon tax provides.

'Where green groups aren't achieving their objectives through political influence they're engaging in legally questionable conduct, as recently experienced by the CSIRO's genetically modified wheat program.

'Green groups are dangerously influencing the Australian economy and creating false economic foundations and excessive restrictions that will make it harder for Australian businesses to compete internationally and adding costs for consumers', Mr Wilson said.

*'An unsustainable economic transformation: How green groups are creating false foundations and restricting the Australian economy'* is available at [www.ipa.org.au](http://www.ipa.org.au)

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