CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF REGIONALISM: A Way For Australia To Ensure The Economic Environment Complements The Natural Environment.

A thesis submitted for the degree of Master of Arts with Honours of The University of New England.

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PREFACE

This thesis concentrates as much as possible on issues that relate to Australia. The idea of constitutional recognition of the environment grew out of an increasing awareness of the power of economic ideas and the detrimental impact those ideas have had on the natural environment and our communities in general. In particular, a Politics/Philosophy unit, presented by Dr Tony Lynch, that contrasted the anthropocentric and ecocentric perspectives, in my mind encapsulated the dominance of the economic over the natural. It seems logical that that imbalance should be dealt with in the Australian Constitution.

That idea was first put forward in my BA Honours paper. Consequently, this thesis is an expansion of that initial idea.

The advice and direction provided by Dr Tony Lynch in this endeavour has been invaluable.

I certify that the substance of this thesis has not already been submitted for any degree and is not being currently submitted for any other degree.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, any help received in preparing this thesis, and all sources used, have been acknowledged in this thesis.

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