

SouthEastTIMBERassociation

Greens Party Spin on Political Donations

The 2011 Greens Party brochure for the Bega electorate, stated that the Greens were a political party that “Doesn’t accept corporate donations.” On 27 January 2015, Greens Party candidate for Bega Margaret Perger posted the following statement:

“We need politicians in NSW that put our regional communities first, not last. VOTE GREEN, we DON'T take the corp \$\$\$\$”

Fact Check.

Between July and November 2010, Graeme Wood donated a total of \$1,680,795 to the federal Greens Party.

<http://periodicdisclosures.aec.gov.au>Returns/48/OSLR4.pdf>

Mr Wood has been described in the media as a multimillionaire internet entrepreneur.

While the record donation to the federal greens party was described as a private donation, the Wotif company co-founded by Mr Wood raised \$172 million in a share market float in 2006. At the time of the donation, Mr Wood was the chief executive, a shareholder and director of Wotif and therefore, had significant corporate interests.

In 2014 when Wotif was taken over by Expedia, the company was valued at \$703 million and Mr Wood held over 19 percent of the shares worth almost \$140 million. So what is the difference in political influence between an individual with significant corporate interests and a corporation with the same corporate interest?

If someone with significant corporate interests supports the Greens, is that more acceptable than a corporation donating to any other political party?

To add to the intrigue, why are 2 NSW upper house Greens Party members standing behind a Socialist Alliance banner?

Answer: Because in the 2015 NSW state election, the Greens Party polled 9.92% of the upper house vote and the Socialist Alliance Party polled 0.2% of the vote. Showing your true colour at election time can be career limiting.



Greens NSW MPs John Kaye, David Shoebridge and Jamie Parker

