

# MediaRelease



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## LAW BREAKERS SET GOVERNMENT POLICY??

The Bracks Government has demonstrated that the best way to influence Government Policy is to break the law, which has led to the Mountain Cattlemen's muster through the Alpine National Park, Timber Communities Australia said today.

"At the launch of the Otways National Park, the Premier and Minister Thwaites invited anti-logging protesters to drink champagne and celebrate their victory at tax payers expense", said Mrs Kersten Gentle, Victorian State Manager of Timber Communities Australia (TCA).

"Even though these people had broken the law, been arrested and had their equipment confiscated whilst putting timber workers lives in danger, the Premier congratulated them on their hard work through the Otways Investigation proving to the rest of the State that the best way to have input into Government Policy, was to break the law", Mrs Gentle said.

"It was therefore somewhat surprising, that Minister Thwaites criticised the Mountain Cattlemen for their peaceful civil disobedience, when only weeks before had shown them that this was the way to influence the Government".

"In Cann River, Parks Victoria has employed an anti-logging protester who has broken the law on several occasions landing him in court with the Government again at tax payers expense, so why, when he has broken the law, is the Government now rewarding him by giving him a job?"

"Groups involved in the public land debate have been duped for years, as we thought the best way to have input into Government policy was to waste hours and hours writing submissions, attending meetings and lobbying Government, however the Premier and Minister Thwaites have shown us that you achieve more by breaking the law".

"TCA fully supports the Mountain Cattlemen's muster through the Alpine National Park as they attempt to hold on to not only their heritage but the heritage of Australia. Let's hope the Brack's Government brings out the champagne and congratulates the Mountain Cattlemen on their civil disobedience like they have done with the anti-logging forest terrorists in the past", concluded Mrs Gentle.

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