

Backpacker Tax Submission

This business farms livestock and grain 350 km south east of Perth

It supports a range of local field specialists ...
The business employs, for crop planting, a long- term local tractor driver. Contractors are engaged for shearing, dipping, lamb marking, swathing, hay making, fertilizer spreading, some spraying, conservation reconstruction and livestock, fertilizer and grain transport.

Yes, we create employment for a lot of people. All of whom we presume enjoys the mandatory benefit of a tax- free threshold.

We engaged our first backpacker in Feb 2009. To June 2016 we have had 58 European, Working Holiday Visa holders on our property with the duration of their stays ranging from 1 hour to four months

They embrace agricultural seasonality, family farming, rural West Australia and our endeavour as an opportunity of a lifetime.

Without exception we have found backpackers to have little or no experience, but a great attitude to work, respect for our circumstance, empathy for all that they see and good humour

We employ backpackers for the mundane and the short-term menial. In other words the Agricultural activities that hold no interest for young Australians of similar inexperience.

That should be the point of reference for the inquiry.... not saving the country with low income backpackers being asked to subsidize Chevron's non payment of taxation

Backpackers already pay tax by way of Visa Application, GST on stamp duty for the purchase of their vehicles, license & insurance, fuel tax, PAYG as prescribed income tax on casual wages, super contribution tax, super contribution commission, GST on non essential food items and entry tax to National Parks.

Why would one group of otherwise tax paying contributors not then have the tax-free threshold?

That a collective of Canberra bureaucrats would even consider the removal of the tax free threshold for Working Holiday Visas holders only serves to demonstrate how utterly out of touch that the Federal Government is for their tax contributing O'Connor constituency.

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