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EPA – EMPTY PROMISES AGAIN?

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says the government seems to be shrinking back from its promise that the EPA will be independent. The Minister when interviewed on the radio this morning said that the EPA may be ‘attached or separated’. For the EPA to be independent it must be separate from the government and it must be an Authority to highlight the fact that it is independent.

If it is true that the EPA will only be a commission attached to the Department than it is unlikely that it will be seen as independent.

Gerry says that the whole saga about the EPA, the Clayton EPA, the EPA programme, the EPA interim board, a report that has been around for 6 months, looks like the Government is writing a script for a new Lord of the Rings film; a lot of mystical thoughts, lovely scenery, clouds, nice music but nothing much else.

The report should be released so that the public can comment; after all they were involved in the public discussion that was part of the development of that report. Surely it is only reasonable for the public to see the finished product, comment and then for the government to put in place an independent EPA.

Cessi foro gallinarum sed surgo