

## Ecotage as Other-Defence

Ecotage: the intentional destruction of property conducted with the aim of furthering environmental ends.

### *Ecotage as Other-Defence*

- P1* Runaway climate change will severely harm many present and future people;
- P2* Certain agents (*climate aggressors*) culpably and wrongly engage in activities that contribute enormously to climate change (e.g. oil companies);
- IC1* Climate aggressors are culpably and wrongly harming many present and future people;
- P3* Aggressors make themselves liable to defensive harm when they culpably and wrongly harm others (victims);
- P4* Victims or agents acting on victims' behalf are *pro tanto* permitted to defensively harm aggressors, provided that this defensive harm is effective and proportionate;
- IC2* Climate aggressors are liable to defensive harm, and climate victims or agents acting on their behalf are *pro tanto* permitted to (effectively and proportionately) defensively harm them;
- P5* Sabotage of a climate aggressor's property (*ecotage*) is a harm that can be both proportionate and effective at halting or slowing a climate aggressor's climate-change-causing activities;
- C* Therefore ecotage, as an instance of effective and proportionate other-defence, is *pro tanto* justified.

When is ecotage *overall* justified?

Reasons against ecotage:

- 1) Risk of harm to innocents
  - A. Mitigated by careful planning
- 2) Backfire
  - B) Historical evidence against backfire
- 3) Secondary economic effects
  - C. Who is responsible for these effects?
  - D. Balancing reasons