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Topic 1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW

- I fully support an immediate end to native forest logging and a future industry based on sustainable plantations.
- Native forest logging is driving the endangered koala and Greater Glider to extinction. An urgent and immediate halt to logging should be placed over core Greater Glider and koala habitat.
- In addition to the specific endangered animals mentioned above, it is worth noting that the loss of biodiversity involved in native forest logging is unsustainable financially, and environmentally; is putting pressure on soils, embedded carbon stores and contributing to climate breakdown.
- NSW logging is subsidised by the taxpayer and makes an economic loss

Topic 2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values

- Forests, especially ridge forests within a few hundred kilometres of coastlines, are essential for the maintenance of humidity in the climate. They condense moisture from the air, pump water into the air via transpiration, which creates clouds and contributes to climate cooling. The soils in forests, left undisturbed, create soils rich in humus and thriving with life, stocking carbon - at least while they remain undisturbed.
- Forests are vital refuges for many threatened species that rely on mature, intact forests
- Forests provide important services for the environment and regional communities, such as:
 - Water quality and flow regulation, important for water quality, fishing and tourism.
 - Recreational values for locals and visitors.
 - Cultural and spiritual significance, especially for indigenous communities.
 - Habitat connectivity, supporting biodiversity and ecosystem health.
 - Koalas are being targeted
- With the process to create a Great Koala National Park across parts of the Mid-north Coast underway, Forestry Corporation NSW has been intensively targeting some of the most critical koala habitat remaining in Australia.
- Over 18,800 hectares of core koala habitat is currently being logged or is scheduled for logging within the Great Koala National Park assessment area. This works out to be around four times more logging operations per hectare than the remainder of NSW.
- Greater Gliders are being targeted
- Over 11,000 hectares of Greater Glider refugia is currently being logged or is scheduled for logging in the near future.
- Four key examples of this targeting are Tallaganda, Badja, Styx River and Tuggolo State Forests. Community surveys over the last 12 months have found a total of 571 Greater Gliders and 154 den trees using on-ground spotlighting and thermal drone surveys. These surveys are ongoing and indicate that there are high densities of Greater Gliders within these areas.
- But if logging continues, many of these Greater Gliders will be killed.

Topic 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail

- An end to native forest logging is very possible. In fact, the transition to a plantation-based industry is nearly complete, with around 90% of Australia's timber needs already being met by current plantations. The remaining 10% can easily be satisfied by stopping the export of unprocessed plantation wood and improving the domestic management of existing plantations.
- There is no longer any need to log public native forests to build houses. Products from NSW logging operations are mostly woodchips for export and other low value products, such as pallets and tomato stakes.
- Plantations can supply our high quality and composite timber products
- Shifting to plantation timber reduces pressure on native forests, supporting sustainable industry practices.

Topic 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs

- 90% of Australia's timber needs are already being met by current hardwood and softwood plantations.
- The remaining 10% can easily be satisfied by stopping the export of unprocessed plantation wood and improving the domestic management of existing plantations.
- Investment in hardwood plantation on already cleared land would supply timber products into the future
- An end to native forest logging is possible, it just requires the political will to make it happen.
- Shifting to higher-value plantations can better meet timber needs.
- Ending public forest subsidies would boost sustainable timber production on private lands.

Topic 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models

- The true value of our native forests does not come from wood production, but from their critical role in carbon storage, the water cycle, providing critical habitat, reducing fire risk, recreation and spiritual connection.
- NSW logging is currently subsidised by the taxpayer and makes an economic loss. The Forestry Corporation is currently financially unsustainable, relying on government support and yielding less timber compared to managed plantations.
- Healthy native forests provide essential water resources.
- Protecting and restoring State Forests will increase the economic value through tourism, carbon storage, job creation and recreational opportunities.
- Diverse forest management, particularly Aboriginal models, can enhance the cultural and social value of forests.

Topic 6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests

- Logging in native forests releases large amounts of carbon, contributing to climate change and working against the Australian Government's commitment to the Paris Agreement.
- Stopping logging allows forests to recover, helping them store more carbon and support climate goals.

Public submission

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- Healthy forests are essential for reducing the impacts of climate change like wildfires and drought.
 - By stopping logging, forests can play a large role in mitigating climate risks and supporting opportunities in carbon markets.