

# Public submission

AMANDA BRENNAN

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**Organisation:** *N/A*

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**Location:** *Victoria*

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** *Attached overleaf*

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Hi, My name is Amanda Brennan. Along with my husband Michael, we own & operate an Auto Electrical business in Koondrook VIC on the Murray River. Our servicing area includes Northern Victoria & Southern NSW. We have 6 employees & the business has been in operation for 30 years

We are both the 3rd generation of our families to have been born & bred in the wonderful community we are a part of. We have the forests on our doorstep & appreciate how lucky we are to be able to indulge in the beauty of it, through activities such as fishing & camping which is a favourite past time of many, many locals & many, many tourists. We are a community, to which for many generations, has been largely reliant on Industries such as Agriculture & Timber. The resilience of our community is strong, however the closure of the Red Gum Timber Industry would be catastrophic for our community consisting of the twin towns Barham, Koondrook & surrounds.

To our business, the Red Gum Timber industry is of high importance, with a large percentage of our income generated from the Red Gum Timber industry. Without the industry in operation and flourishing as it has in the past, our business along with the local economy would suffer greatly. The employment opportunities will no longer exist, people will be forced to move away & Sporting clubs & community groups would no longer receive much needed funding from local businesses. The impact of such demise to the community, would be huge on the mental health of all.

The forests would be overgrown becoming a fire danger, tracks to access the forests will be unaccessable & we will have lost essential firefighters & firefighting equipment. The Red Gum Timber Industry operators provide critical equipment to maintain the tracks & provide equipment & personell needed to fight forest fires. Without them it poses an increased danger not just to our forests but to our towns directly.

We want to see our community thrive well into the future for many generations to come, a future involving a healthy Red Gum Timber Industry.

Thank you for your time.