

ANGUS DOUGLAS

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

I don't believe that the sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW depends on the logging of native forests. Rather, I think that keeping native forest logging as a feature of forestry operations will heighten the likelihood of these operations becoming more unsustainable than they are currently.

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

The environmental and cultural values of native forests are inestimable. Continuing to log them practically ensures that threatened species reliant on these ecosystems will become further endangered or extinct.

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

This demand can be, and already is, met in other ways, without recourse to native forest logging.

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

Subsidising the logging of public native forests by the Forestry Corporation is non-competitive and distorts the market away from the more profitable softwood plantation industry.

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

Public native forests have a much higher economic value when they are allowed to function naturally and without logging

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

Native forests are critical in helping to mitigate climate change risks, and deforestation is the second greatest contributor to climate change.