

NAME REDACTED

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**Organisation:** *Aquafern Pty Ltd*

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**Location:** *Location redacted*

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**Supporting materials uploaded:** *N/A*

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

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There is a need for a sustainable forest industry.

Forestry is highly regulated and contributes to the economy and employment.

We are in regional NSW and employ 22 sawmill workers. They are local and wish to stay here.

They have mortgages and families to feed. They also support the local community. If the sawmills have to close this would effect not only the local retailers but the schools and hospitals.

There is also a follow on effect- we are only a small community but it reaches out national wide.

We support our suppliers from Freight, Fuel, Maintenance, Mechanics, Packaging etc.

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

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Our sawmill has been the cornerstone of the local community since its establishment in 1947.

For 77 years this family-run business has provided essential timber products and woven itself into the fabric of the regions history and development.

The area around Warrell Creek has long been used for agricultural purposes with sawmills playing a crucial role in servicing the timber industry. The Warrell Creek Sawmill has been a significant part of this history, providing timber for various uses, including pallet work, roof battens, fencing and structural timber.

The sawmill also supplies by-products, such as woodchips, sawdust and woodchip fines to other businesses in the Landscape, poultry and feedlot industries, creating a circular economy that maximizes the use of its resources.

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

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High Demand

We provide timber for various uses-

Pallet Timber -for use in transportation of goods.

Mine Timber - Used in mines for structural support

Roof Battens - Structural timber for building and Construction

Fencing - Posts and Rails

Landscaping - Landscape sleepers

By-Products such as woodchips, sawdust are also supplied.

"Nothing is wasted"

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

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Our mill relies on continuation of the supply of softwood and hardwood timber and also Private Native Forestry. It is vital for the mills to continue operation.

The future of the sawmill depends on plantation and Private Native Forestry (PNF) suppliers.