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Organisation: *Bulahdelah Haulage Pty Ltd*

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

The most important things about having a sustainable hardwood forestry industry in NSW are the health of the forest and therefore the planet, regional employment opportunities and not relying on foreign products from less regulated countries that destroy forests for short term gain.

My grandfather, father and now my brothers are logging the same patches of forest and private plantations because when they are thinned, logged and better managed, they become more productive.

There is nothing as 'green' as timber. Substitute materials are not environmentally friendly to make, or to recycle, for example telegraph poles vs carbon fibre or cement poles.

At the moment, I feel uncertain about further investing in the business because I might have little or no work if the timber supply is reduced or stopped.

Our company would have to contract or even cease operations if there was a decrease in the availability of hardwood.

If native hardwood harvesting ended, my business would cease operations. This would really hurt my hard working employees and local business including the local fuel depot, vehicle mechanics, plant mechanics and so forth.

A reduction in the supply of hardwood would cause serious unemployment in town and lead to a decrease in the Bulahdelah population as people would have to leave to find new jobs. This would drastically shrink the economy of our town, causing further business closures and hardship for every resident of our town as they would have to travel to other larger towns for the goods and services previously available locally.

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

National Parks are not managed. They are locked up, not thinned, logged or back burned. They have no maintained forestry roads, so National Parks are often inaccessible when fires break out. This build-up of material causes major catastrophic fires that kill everything - plants and animals.

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

With 7 employees, Bulahdelah Haulage are one of the larger employers in our small town of Bulahdelah. The two local sawmills being the biggest employers by far.

In a regional area, every cent spent is important in helping to keep our town alive. Around 75 % of our operating expenses last year, \$1.1 million including fuel and wages, went to local businesses and local people.

Just the registration charges for our trucks and vehicles contributes \$78,674 per annum. Our company buys almost all its fuel from the local depot, supports the local mechanical workshops, and provides ongoing work for the two local plant mechanics and the local steel fabricator, among others.

We sponsor the local Men's shed and support the Show Society where possible because it is important to help keep our community thriving.

Our three permanent drivers use specialised 'Walking Floor' trucks to deliver 3200 cubic meters per annum of sawdust to around fifteen chicken and turkey farms in our local area which grow meat birds. We also deliver 16500 tonnes per annum of hardwood chip to Delta Energy (Vales Point Power Station) which they use to make electricity.

We also deliver around 7000 tonnes per annum of clean renewable hardwood chip to a farming enterprise on the central coast that is able to grow all year by burning this chip in an automated system to heat five hectares of greenhouses. This facility employs seasonally between 90 and 120 people and supplies 3000 tonnes of produce per year to Australians. This company is committed to only using a clean renewable source of energy and there is no other product available to them that could be substituted for this.

We have also delivered 5100 cubic meters (so far) of certified clean asbestos free hardwood chip to the M12 and Badgerys's Creek Airport sites and we also deliver hardwood chip to landscape yards for sale to the public.

These jobs alone account for approx. \$1.4million of our turnover and around 90% of our work.

This woodchip and sawdust that we deliver is supplied by three sawmills. Two in Bulahdelah and another on the Mid North Coast.

The more houses they are building in Sydney and Newcastle the busier we get. Demand for native hardwood timbers is increasing every year because there is no substitute for wood.

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

While plantations are important it will take between 25 and 45 years to start a viable plantation industry on the north coast. Forestry Corporation owns most of the plantation and they cannot supply enough to contract now. Private native forestry only provides approximately 35% of supply now.

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

State forests play a vital role in the Bulahdelah Haulage business every day of the week.

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

More of the residues should be used in supply power generators as wood residues are cleaner than coal.