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**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**

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Dear Independent Forestry Panel Secretariat

Please accept my submission into the sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW.

A sustainable forestry industry must rely solely on plantations; all logging in public native forests should cease to protect biodiversity.

Most wood products can be sourced from plantations. The loss of native forests is unjustified, as alternatives exist for both hardwood and boutique products through recycling and sustainable sourcing.

No logging should occur in native forests, with a strong push for complete reliance on plantations for timber supply, ideally established on degraded land instead of clearing native vegetation.

Public native forests should focus on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services. Areas with established plantations should remain under the Department of Primary Industries, while native forest areas should be designated as protected reserves, ideally with Aboriginal joint management.

Intact natural systems play a vital role in carbon sequestration. Current carbon trading schemes lack integrity and should not include public native forests, as this could enable further environmental degradation.