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

The logging of native forests is not sustainable. Not only does it destroy the habitat of animals when the timber could easily be grown in plantations, as it does for 90% of the timber we now use, but it is not economically viable. It costs the taxpayers every time a tree is logged. There are cheaper and less destructive ways to source our timber.

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

We know that the koalas are endangered, we know they need specific trees for their food source and they need to be able to move safely around their environment to find both food and mates. We say we are going to do what we can to stop their extinction and yet we log their habitat in the very area that is proposed to be their safe place to live, like the Great Koala Park. By reducing their food source and creating isolated pockets we not only reduce their numbers, we deprive them of access to mates and the chance to keep genetic variety. It is well known that inbreeding causes all sorts of problems for any animal and the koala is no exception. If we are serious about helping the koalas to survive, we need to stop destroying their homes.

The forests are also home to other endangered animals, like the greater glider, as well as many other animals. It is also where many plants are found that are also endangered. The forests are where we find many new medical discoveries and if we destroy the forests, we will be depriving ourselves of future possibilities.

Forests provide much more than just economic benefits. For many, forests are a healing place, a chance to leave stress behind. They use carbon dioxide to produce oxygen, which is essential for our survival. They are also a source of food for bees, essential for pollination of much of our food.

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

Currently approx 90% of timber used is supplied by plantations. Little of what is logged in the native forests ends up as sawn timber and most becomes cardboard or woodchips. I don't support the idea that it is necessary to log the habitat of endangered animals like the koalas and greater gliders for this purpose when it can be grown and harvested in a plantation using fast growing trees chosen for their suitability for this purpose. Plantations are a better option as they are rarely a major source of biodiversity and homes for endangered animals.

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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**

As stated in Q3. Currently approx 90% of timber used is supplied by plantations. Little of what is logged in the native forests ends up as sawn timber and most becomes cardboard or woodchips. I don't support the idea that it is necessary to log the habitat of endangered animals like the koalas and greater gliders for this purpose when it can be grown and harvested in a plantation using fast

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**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**

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To me, State Forests should be there to conserve and protect the forests, not to log them and exacerbate the endangerment of our native animals. They should be managing by increasing the ability of everyone to enjoy nature, not by causing destruction. This should include the use of cultural burning as this has been shown to reduce the level of damage when a bushfire occurs. The amount of debris left behind after logging that dries out and becomes a fuel source, greatly increases the intensity of any bushfire.

Economically, logging is heavily subsidised and it would cost the taxpayers less to transition workers into other areas. Especially if this was to a planned plantation to replace the timber taken from native forests it would reduce costs as access to a plantation does not have to be carved out of the native forest to get to the timbers to be harvested. Workers could also be trained and diverted to other industries like the renewables industry, where there are many opportunities.

**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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The native forests are a successful way to capture and store carbon. When we are in a situation where we are struggling to find ways that actually do work to capture and store carbon, why are we ignoring the role that native forests play in this area. It has been shown that the longer trees are left growing and the larger they become, the greater the amount of carbon they can store. They also absorb the carbon at a greater rate each year they are left growing.