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

I've worked in the industry based in Sydney for 4 years. I work in a business selling high end products into the construction market. I'm confident that the industry and State forests are sustainably managed, governed by the state administered forestry code and act for native timber management.

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

The forests are managed for timber but also habitat, water and regeneration for future generations to also responsibly harvest timber. The timber industry support jobs in and beyond regional NSW.

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

If the timber is not available to service the market from local resources, like State Forests, timber to fill supply will be imported from other countries.

Alternate products are becoming more popular and will increase if there is no access to native hardwoods. Products like cement cladding offer a timber look, but cement is not renewable and doesn't store carbon

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

Timber from pine plantations can't be used to replace native forest timbers. The strength and visual properties are different. Beyond that timbers for exterior application where specification for Bush Fire Attack Level (BAL) must be followed always call for native forest timbers.

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

Native forest timbers should be harvested from State Forests. The responsible management to date has ensured that environmental, economic and social outcomes have been, and continue to be delivered. It is the best interest of the industry to manage responsibly for the continuation of the industry.

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

Continued management for timber will continue to manage the forest to regenerate and sequester carbon. The products milled will continue to store carbon in application and the carbon and environmental cost of products like cement cladding or importing can be avoided.