

Public submission

ILEA BUFFIER

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Organisation: *Evalue8 Sustainability*

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Dear Independent Forestry Panel Secretariat

RE: Submission to the Independent Forestry Panel

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

Australia's emissions reduction progress is almost solely based on avoided emissions from Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF). The recent Sector Pathways Review from the Climate Change Authority recommends "Protecting existing forests and other native vegetation from deforestation and degradation." Native Forest Logging is not aligned with the global objective and Australia's committed targets.

Climate reporting is about to become mandatory for thousands of Australian organisations. NSW Government should hold themselves to these same standards and report under the International Sustainability Standards Board S1 and S2 standards. Climate is first, biodiversity will quickly follow. If following the TCFD and TNFD (<https://www.fsb-tcfid.org/> <https://tnfd.global/>) reporting framework, it will be obvious that continuing native forest logging does not make sense. Organisations will be required to impair their assets based on an internal carbon price. I believe it would be reasonable to impair forest assets with a high (conservative) carbon cost and an additional biodiversity cost.

On a personal note, I recently participated in Run for the Forest: Tallanganda 30x30, where 30 runners ran 30 kms and raised \$30,000 to protect the Tallanganda State Forest from logging. It is a strong hold to the Greater Glider, which has recently been added to the engaged species list. The destruction to one of their most important habitat areas was devastating. The What Extinction Looks Like Report summarises the situation - <https://assets.wwf.org.au/image/upload/v1699844761/pdf-what-extinction-looks-like-report-FINAL-Nov-23.pdf>.

There are many obvious conflicts of interest that need to be addressed in the current process. The NSW Forestry Corporation not correctly identifying den trees is a prime example of this. The funding sources Forestry Corporation receives should also be reviewed for conflicts and subsidies removed, as they cannot be consistent with NSW's Net Zero Target by 2050. It is no longer acceptable to use public money to subsidise native forest logging.

Please follow the lead of Victoria and WA and put a stop to native forest logging in NSW.

Signed

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Managing Director
Evaluate8 Sustainability