

GRAEME COONEY

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

The timber industry which I once worked in . Has never been a viable industry . It has always been propped up by the taxpayer . What it has amounted too is the taxpayer paying sawmillers to cut down the forests that they own . Timber is a renewable resource and sustainable . But the way it has been managed from day one is not . The forestry commission needs to be disbanded . The rape and pillage attitude , flouting laws , constantly breaking the rules and the poultry recriminations for doing so has to go .

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

Australia is the world leader in mamal extinction . With a small population the havoc we have reaked on our native environment is truly shameful . Yet still it continues . Vast tracks of land being cleared for beef production . The number one reason for native animal decline and extinction is habitat loss . Because the vast majority live in cities it's easy to be detached from nature and not really aware of the seriousness of its decline . Yet Australians have a real affinity for nature and when confronted majority are strongly supportive . Unfortunately the right wing dominated media give it no coverage & what's left do not give it the coverage it deserves .

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

Having spent the majority of my working life in the building industry . I've noticed timber in any form has become increasingly scarce . Even mouldings which were Miranti , then solid pine and now finger joined pine . Hardwood is virtually non existent and what you can get is treated and not really hardwood . Demand well and truly outstrips supply . Yet we have plenty of steel which makes better houses . But Carpenters are stuck on using wood . There needs to be much greater use of steel and a lot more pre fabrication . The current way homes are designed and built is very poor . Generally built too big with too many rooms . Costly to build and even more costly to live in . Incorporating a few basic environmental design principals could not only reduce costs of living in them . It would lessen the demand on resources like power and water .

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

Timber is a renewable resource that managed properly in a sustainable way would mean we would never run out . Not only that it could be a huge contributor to absorbing carbon emissions . We should be planting as many trees as we can put in the ground . The demand is always going to be there and it could be an increasingly profitable sustainable industry . But it's a big mistake to make plantations a mono culture . It's not good for the environment , our native animals and leaves them vulnerable to being wiped out by diseases .

Public submission

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 are critical for both native animal and human well being . Rainforest was only 2% of Australian land mass to begin with . We have so little native forest left and what we have has been managed very badly . Taking 300 years to grow and minutes to cut down . You don't have to be lenient to work out your going to run out pretty quickly . Aboriginals managed forests in a sustainable way . We never have .

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

Not only do forests offset carbon emissions . They can also provide a valued product and support sustainable jobs . But amount of trees planted and plantations need to be vastly increased to create that . The amount of time to grow and get it to the stage where it's an ongoing sustainable business . It would have to be done on a very large scale .