Public submission

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

Native timber harvesting is no longer sustainable in NSW.

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

Australia's biodiversity is intricately connected with native forests and there is compelling evidence that it is rapidly being lost because of deforestation.

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

I have no expertise.

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

I do not know.

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

NSW's state forests have enormous importance as natural capital, delivering large-scale social and environmental benefits for our communities. These values are irreplaceable.

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

Ceasing deforestation has been recognised as one of the main elements of controlling atmospheric carbon levels. However, there are failings bin the use of vegetation plans for offsets, so there is a need for much more effective scrutiny and regulation.