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Submission ID: 204519

Organisation: N/A

Location: New South Wales

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 10/12/2024 5:01:28 PM

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

I am opposed to the continued logging of our native forests as it is no longer sustainable. A large percentage of these forests once logged end up as low value products such as tissues and toilet paper. We are able to supply approximately 90% of our timber needs from plantations already in existence yet taxpayer money continues to support the logging of native forests! There is also the 'small' matter of our iconic species such as the endangered koala and greater gliders having their habitat decimated. I support an immediate moratorium put on logging while the FIAP process is underway to protect our iconic species who are directly targeted in current logging operations.

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

Our native forests provide habitat for a diverse range of endangered species. These include koalas, greater gliders and in some pockets, rock wallabies. The continuation of native forest logging will push them further to extinction. An immediate moratorium on logging should be put in place to protect these species while the FIAP process is underway. Native forests need to be left intact to provide carbon sequestration as well as the cleansing of our water. Apart from cleaning our air and water healthy forests actually help to reduce dangers of bush fires. Our intact forests provide important places for people to recharge. They are also vastly important to our indigenous communities. They who have a true spiritual connection to these places.

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

Plantation timber in NSW is currently able to provide for approximately 90% of our needs. If we withdraw a percentage of timber from export we would be able to meet all our needs.

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

The plantation industry is currently able to supply the vast amount of our requirements for timber. The continued use of taxpayer money to prop up the native logging industry needs to stop.

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

The protection and restoration of native forests would give future opportunities to local people as well as aboriginal communities. From tourism to recreation as well as fire management.

Public submission

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

A healthy intact native forest is a powerful carbon sequestration opportunity which is so important if we are to meet our carbon reduction goals. I feel if we continue logging these forests we are just increasing our climate change impacts.