

LINDA GROOM

Submission ID: 201538

Organisation: N/A

Location: *Location redacted*

Supporting materials uploaded: N/A

Submission date: 9/30/2024 12:01:20 PM

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

In my view, native forest logging is not sustainable. The ecological changes are too long lasting to be considered 'sustainable'. Logging of land that is not native forest i.e. logging and replanting pine forest is probably sustainable if done with long rotation times and in sympathy with the environmental values of surrounding land

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

Native forests have high environmental values as refuges for threatened species. Logging should not proceed in native forests because it is a short-term benefit for some sectors of society; retention of native forests provides long term benefits, including the provision of relatively unchanged natural areas in which Aboriginal Australians can continue cultural practices

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

Any future forestry agreements should include plans to maximise re-use of timber products, and government incentives, for a limited number of years, to encourage transition to a higher proportion of re-used timber products. The federal government should be encouraged to reduce immigration - a key driver of demand - and state plans should consider the possibility that future federal governments will reduce immigration. As a consumer of forest products, I am willing to pay higher prices and accept longer supply times, in order to preserve native forests.

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

In my view, 'Private Native Forestry' is a term that can mislead the public about environmental effects. Government restrictions on land-clearing should be extended. Replanting of newly-cleared land should be permitted only with environmentally-driven conditions such as replanting to achieve species variety and age range of trees that is similar to native forest, and logging intervals that mimic the timing of natural clearing events such as landslides or high intensity fires.

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

Logging in State Forests should cease. Government support for forestry workers should include re-training, re-location support, and funding of additional positions in the same region e.g. on working on weed control or feral pest control in national parks

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

It is important to include biodiversity benefits in any carbon market intervention, to prevent, for example, the planting of monocultures to claim carbon credits.