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

The Forestry Corporation of NSW is a modern corporation which takes profit as their main objective. As such their operations are unsustainable and their name is misleading. We have experienced their practices in the state forests around Lithgow (now Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area) where they were allowed to walk away from their logging destruction with no attempt of rehabilitating their damage. No mining or other company would be allowed to get away with practices we have seen here.

The remaining native forests of NSW have evolved over millennia. Today's Forestry Corporation of NSW does not take sustainability into account but works on short term greed. Native forest logging is unsustainable

These forests are not just \$\$\$s from timber. They support a whole environment:

- We humans depend on the air these forests produce.
- Our climate relies on the carbon they absorb from our pollution.
- They maintain ground water resources and replenish the waterways with their own complex environments.
- Multiple species, threatened and otherwise rely on hollows and food sources native forests provide.

The logging of native Forests is the manifestation of human greed and should be stopped.

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

Native forests are important to the natural environment on which we humans still depend on. Air, Water and climate all rely on healthy forests to be replenished. '150 threatened species in NSW are directly impacted by logging native forests' (1). And so are we.

Forests still play a big part in the culture of aboriginal people who see themselves as custodians of the world they live in. It is only 'modern' humans and their greed which makes them see only the dollar value in a natural environment. It is the continuation of the colonizer's mindset, who stole the land and keeps exploiting it until his own demise.

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

Modern building technology does not rely on hardwood logs sourced from native forests. "Half the logs taken from native forests in 2023 were turned into wood chips "(1). Plantation forests already provide for the demands for building timber. The demand for high value veneers could be met by selective and less damaging logging. How can we consider the demand for building products more important than the demand for healthy forests ?

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

Tax payer's subsidies to the destruction of native forests is a distortion of responsible thinking. It prioritizes short-term thinking over sustainability and the subsidies distort the market.

'Plantations already provide 91% of Australia's log production' (1) and high value hardwood products should only be selective harvest with respect to the environment.

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

Native forests are very important for all the above, the environment, socially, culturally and the economy. Healthy forests benefit the tourism industry in a sustainable, long term way, especially when the healthy environments are destroyed in many parts of the world. Even if you just look at dollars, the long term economic benefit from tourism far outweigh the profits from a logged forest.

First Nations Ranger programs should be encouraged to manage forests in a sustainable way. Tax payer's subsidies to keep an uneconomic and unsustainable Forestry Corporation of NSW afloat have to stop.

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

"Native forest logging in NSW is estimated to release 3.6 million tonnes of carbon every year
Ending native forest logging would be the equivalent to removing 840 thousand cars from the roads per year

Logging in a native forest reduces the amount of stored carbon by more than half of the original value

Ending native forest logging will allow previously logged forests to regain lost carbon and make a significant contribution to meeting our emissions targets

Climate change is driving increased risks for forest health and continued logging in native forests is exacerbating that risk

Forests that have not been logged are more resilient to the changing climate and catastrophic fires that are occurring as a consequence" (1`)

Quotes marked (1) are from The Greens