Public submission

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

Logging of native forests is NOT a sustainable practise. The logging industry does not care where it's timber comes from but would prefer to exploit existing forests for ease and cost. The only sustainable timber is plantation timber but that requires investment and management. As long as logging lobbies can dupe the taxpayer, native forest will always be their preference.

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

We need healthy forests for holding carbon, cleaning our air and water, providing habitat, providing recreation, spiritual connection and logging native forests damages all these values.

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

More and more housing products are being developed from other sources than timber and this should be recognised and encouraged.

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

Just like all the fossil fuel industries, change is imperative. Like ivory, timber is becoming rarer and more expensive, which ironically only benefits the timber merchants. If we are to continue using timber, we have to find a better way of harvesting it. Plantations are the only solution.

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

It is called State Forests, not State Logging for a good reason: The role of State Forests is to protect the forests not the logging industry.

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

The science is clear, for decades we have known the benefit of protecting native forest. Forests affect our weather, enhancing rainfall and retaining soil moisture which can only be a positive factor in a warming climate.