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

The logging of old growth forests must be immediately ceased. The irreplaceable destruction of almost all of it already is an appalling sacrilege.

The biodiversity crisis is as great a threat to our well-being as that of the climate, and they are interconnected and go hand in hand. We need to urgently follow the lead of Victoria and put an end to native forest logging altogether. Our extinction record is already egregious, let us mend our ways and conserve what remains. Surely we can afford to share the pitiful fragments which survive with our fellow creatures!

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

It is in old growth forests, that such endangered species as the regent honeyeater, the greater glider and the platypus as well as the talismanic koala, cling to their last remnant shreds of habitat and hope of survival. We were promised a Great Koala National Park. Not only does this promise show no sign of being delivered, but rampant logging and habitat destruction is proceeding apace within its proposed boundaries. Is the intention to rip the guts out of it and then hand it over to the koalas?

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

Our timber needs can all be sourced from plantations,

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

The native forest logging industry provides zero economic benefit, generates very little employment and exacts hideous detriment. It is not profitable, but rather subsidised.

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 ideological drive to monetise the forests by deriving carbon credits from saving them leads to the perverse outcome of destroying them on order to be able to desist from destroying them.

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

Our native forests constitute a carbon sink which has an essential role in reigning in carbon emissions and mitigating runaway climate destabilisation. The miraculously complex and intricate

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web of life which is contained within these unique ecosystems, which has evolved over millions of years, is irreplaceable, not by regrowth, not by plantations, not by offsets.