

NAME REDACTED

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

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Australia has done poorly in the past 200 years in the destruction of so much forests in this land. It has been logged by white settlers from mid 19th century with no thought of future generations. The cedar getters out of the Big Scrub is a good example of how nearly all red cedars were felled and floated down rivers and exported to England. There is scarcely a red cedar now that is more than 60 years old and these trees can live for 1000 years supposedly.

We have never planted trees to replace what is cut down. Our forestry has been out of touch with nature in my opinion and just lack common sense. In the 1980's there was a bit of initiative to plant trees and the Labour Government of the day funded programs to do so. Then we were set back by the Howard Government to cut all those programs. It seems that the only plantations the State Forestry is interested in is pine. There is little hardwoods being grown on a regular basis by the Forestry of NSW.

Other states in Australia have banned logging old growth trees out of their forests. They have put an end to logging native forests altogether. This is very progressive of these states. We really need to do it for the whole country and get united about it. The quick buck from clearing and wood chipping has destroyed so much wildlife and threatened endangered species. We really are not a progressive country in this way. In fact we have made many mistakes about caring for this land. The degradation of forests has caused our waterways to become silted up and erosion to occur. We really need to preserve what is there now for all future generations. Our timber needs can be met by plantations of hardwoods as well as pine forests. This can be done by the private sector as well and encouraged and funded by corporations seeking carbon credits.

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

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Aborigines looked after the land for 60,000 years. We need to learn about the relationship they had with their country. We need to learn about how to get in touch with nature and attune to it as these people did for thousands of years.

The simplicity of their lifestyles was key for connecting with the land. Our greed for more and more wealth has driven us to disregard the law of the land which was understood by these indigenous people. In righting our wrongs we have made through destroying whole ecosystems, we can hopefully bring our land back into balance and become aware of threatened species. We have not got a great record for causing species to become extinct.

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

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Once again we need to replace what we take from our forest and this has never been the case. There will always be a need for building timbers. We just need to work it out now so that is not impacting on the environment as it has been for the last 200 years. The land needs healing after all the white man's degradation. Many would never have known that that was the case when the first pioneers were cutting forests down and making farms.

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

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I think there should be more incentives for farmers to grow some paddocks with timber plantations. There could be funding supplied for them to start this process.

**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**

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State Forests need to have Environmental scientists involved with their management of the forests. There are now lots of learned elders who through their love of the forests have been willing to offer their knowledge. It doesn't make sense to have Greenies versus Forestry. We are all being impacted by the mismanagement of the land. If Aborigines can help us realign ourselves to the land then that is also key to having their involvement in the form of jobs and respect.

**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**

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There is a lot of big companies on this planet that are polluting and causing climate changes. These big guys are needing to recognise the impact they are having on the global scale. They need to be responsible and our Government needs to hold them responsible. If they were to help fund reforestation this would be a win- win for us all.