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

It has been established for many years that logging NSW native forests is not done for economic reasons. That financially unprofitable logging is propped up by government funding of the logging with taxpayer money. The practice is illogical and senselessly destructive. There are other ways of sourcing timber without destroying what remains of our forests. Western Australia and Victoria have both ended logging in native forests. It's time for us to finally do the same.

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

Local Aboriginal communities object to the destruction of land that they say should be protected for cultural reasons. Once those forests are gone that connection to land is lost forever. Native forests also provide essential habitat for wildlife including threatened species that the government has promised to protect, including koalas. It's impossible to understand why a government would say it was dedicated to protecting these iconic species while at the same time paying to unprofitably destroy their scarce habitat.

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

As the government and the forest industry are aware, there are alternative sources of timber. The sooner the transition is made to plantation timber the better for the industry and for workers in it. Victoria and Western Australia have found that they can do this. NSW urgently needs to do the same.