

Public submission

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Dear Forest Industry Action Panel

I would like to make a submission to the NSW Forestry Review.

Ever since I was a child growing up in the surrounded by Native Forests I have been acutely aware of the vital role the native forests play in our lives, and their preservation is deeply important to me.

Native logging is an outdated and destructive practice which if we are to halt the degradation of the environment must be brought to an end. It is in neither the economic nor environmental interests of NSW for it to continue.

Continuing this practice will push more endangered species to extinction through habitat destruction, it will worsen the impacts of already worsening bushfire seasons, it will release vast quantities of stored carbon into the atmosphere (once again worsening bushfires by exacerbating climate change) and cause harm to indigenous communities for whom native forests hold deep spiritual and cultural significance.

These are only some of the devastating effects that continuing Native Forestry in NSW would have.

However, this panel has an opportunity to see this harmful practice brought to a halt, sustainable plantation logging is not only significantly better for the environment it is also more economically sound.

Native Logging in NSW operates at a loss and is dependent on government subsidies to continue. The funds of those subsidies would be better diverted toward job creation for those currently working in native logging to ensure their wellbeing through this necessary change.

The money of NSW taxpayers should not be spent subsidising the destruction of the environment in which they live and the worsening of natural disasters that significantly impact communities such as those of my family in the Blue Mountains.

I remember the impacts of the Black Summer Fires in 2019, I remember being worried sick for my family and continuing to worry every summer for their safety and wellbeing as the fires worsen.

I implore you to use the opportunity of this review to make the right decision for NSW and end native logging in this state.

Thank you for considering my submission.