

NAME REDACTED

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**Location:** New South Wales

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

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I am second generation in the family-owned truck and trailer retailer Brown and Hurley, the business was established in 1946. We sell trucks and trailers into the forest industry. My family's association with forestry goes back to the early 1900's, my grandfather had a bullock team he used as a sleeper cutter.

Forestry in NSW native forests is sustainable and will remain sustainable into the future under the current regulation parameters.

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

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State Forests are heavily regulated. The forest provides environmental and cultural values to the communities local to the forest and urban communities through biodiversity protection, carbon sequestration and sustainable timber supply.

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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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The demand for timber products hasn't decreased with the continued restriction of the forests available for production. Further restriction won't stop the need for timber, it will drive timber importations.

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**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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The timber to replace hardwood native timbers from State Forests wont be sourced from plantations. Pine is a different timber. Hardwood plantations are not old enough to provide like for like products.

The supply from private native forests will not be enough the supply the market's needs. Imports will become a large part of the market. The idea of closing a well-managed highly regulated industry in Australia to exacerbate the problems in lesser regulated countries is very poorly thought through by the groups trying to close access to State Forests.

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**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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I support the continued management of State Forests for the production of timber. The productive forests are managed on a rotational basis and the areas that are selectively harvested are managed to regenerate for future generations. The forests are not cleared. The 1000s and 1000s of hectares of forest that can be seen when flying across the Qld and NSW boarder and down to Sydney represent a massive resource for timber and habitat. NSW State Forests are multiple use forests that are currently managed for the delivery of environmental, economic and social outcomes.

**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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The benefits of continued harvest and productive management of our State Forests outstrips the benefits of locking them in reserve. The unseen cost of closing productive forests go beyond the loss of jobs and industry. The loss of forest management to ensure healthy canopy growth, weed and pest control, and fire management. The groups calling for the close of forests to timber production are uneducated to the way a forest is managed.

The call to close forest harvesting will not 'save' the environment. The cost to the environment for timber harvested in lesser developed countries with poor environmental protection laws; the carbon cost of importing the timber; or the cost of alternate products like steel. These alternatives to the continuation of a sustainable local industry seem poorly thought through.

The opportunity this industry panel can realize is to change the narrative around native forest harvesting in the community, especially in the urban centers. The representation of forest management in the media or online is as close as many will get to a working forest.

Misunderstanding perpetuated by one sided reporting or false reporting (plantation harvesting is not forest clearing) must be addressed. If Forestry Corp is gagged in the media, then a comment from an industry representative should be provided.

None of the values of the forest are safe if the forest is left unmanaged.