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

I work in the timber industry in Sydney. The products we sell are milled from NSW native forest timbers. Fifty percent of the timber supply is from State Forest. The timber is harvested from forests that are harvested, regrown and harvested again and again over time. The trees are not clear felled, the forest is not cleared.

Forestry supports jobs and communities through industry, management, weed and fire suppression, environmental research and monitoring. The sustainable use of our forests should be encouraged.

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

The environmental values of the forests persist after logging in native forest. The operations require certification from government departments before commencing and are monitored by the EPA.

Special conditions are in place during a harvest event to manage and protect threatened species and areas with special habitat values.

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

The products we sell are used for both new builds and renovations, the demand has increased

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

It's not viable to swap out the products we provide in the market for product milled from pine or plantation timbers. Alternative products from these resources would require extra manufacturing or preservation (chemicals and energy use).

Half of the wood for timber production for the company is from private resource, this is more than the average portion of private timber supply (25%). I don't believe there would be the capacity to supply all of the wood needed for the market.

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

State forests are multi-use forests, these uses include timber harvesting. The other values of the forest are delivered. The areas of the forest that are harvested are regrown.

Areas of the state that are cleared for farming, the largest cause of deforestation, are not regrown, the values from those forests are lost and replaced with crops or pasture.

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

Opportunities for future use of forests aren't threatened by small areas of selective logging, the timber products hold the carbon while in use, in the case of the timber we sell, that's the lifespan of the home or building.

Removing management from the forest creates higher fire risk and lower levels of access for fire fighting for forest workers and surrounding communities.