

19/09/2022

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Portfolio Committee No. 4  
C/- Allison Stowe  
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Dear Committee

In evidence presented on 5 September 2022 at Budget Estimates, I made an error in the information presented regarding exports and wish to correct the record.

The transcript on page 60 states:

*ANSHUL CHAUDHARY: I'm happy to take that one. Thank you for your question. Right now, by the way, just to clarify, we are not exporting large numbers at all. Very small numbers of logs are exported because after the major fires, given the shortage of timber, we have now directed that wood from Walcha. It was only up the Walcha area that we were exporting out of. This is softwood timber I'm talking about. We have now redirected that from Walcha to other regions, such as Bathurst and down to Tumut.*

I should have stated that Walcha is the only district from which export has been the primary market, not that it is not the only district from which exports have occurred. Forestry Corporation has over several years exported softwood timber that does not meet the specifications of local processors from the Grafton and Bombala districts. For a short period during the post-fire salvage program Forestry Corporation also exported some softwood timber products from the Tumut and Tumbarumba regions where they could not be processed by domestic customers. The primary market in all districts other than Walcha has always been domestic processors, and the domestic market is now also the primary market for timber from Walcha district.

I apologise for this error and trust that the record can be corrected.

Regards,

Anshul Chaudhary  
Chief Executive Officer