

**Submission  
No 85**

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mrs Kath Moorese

**Date received:** 27/07/2012

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We are local business owners in Mathoura and are being affected by the conversion the State Forest to a National Park. This decision was not based on fact, but a political decision.



## TARRAGON LODGE

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The Director,  
General purpose Standing Committee No5  
Parliament House  
Macquarie St  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir /Madam

Our business is a holiday on the banks of the Murray River surrounded by one of the largest Red Gum Forest in the world, if not the biggest. The Barmah is just across the river and the Millewa, Moira and Gulpha surround us on the NSW side of the River.

There are a number of points that worry us.

- 1 It is a worry to see so much rubbish on the floor of the forest/ national park. When cattle grazed the forest/national park they kept down grasses and weeds that are now fuel on the forest/national park floor. We have had two fires in the Moira Forest in the last five or six years and to see the devastation after the fires is just awful. Beautiful large Red Gum standing stark in what could be a beautiful forest. Another worry with the fire is what happens to the wild life. You worry about the wild flowers and plants but what about the live native animals.  
It is also a worry that there is not enough fire fighting equipment to stop such a fire and then what happens to places like our place. We have to have clearings around our boundaries but the vegetation in the forest/national parks is allowed to grow right to our fence that we put up with no help from the forestry.
- 2 It was said that the National Park would bring tourists to the area. We have had a decline of interest in our park since National Parks were introduced. People are frightened to come because they are not really sure what they can and cannot do in the National Park and most people want to bring their dogs with them.
- 3 The fire wood is a big worry also. People used to be allowed collect firewood from the forest with no harm to the forest and enjoy a day out in the lovely surrounds. Now they don't even get to come to the place because of the laws of the place. The other aspect is the worst of all. What happens to all the people that have fire heating. Lots of old people and families who cannot afford to change to gas or electric heating and by the time the Carbon tax comes they will be worse off still.
- 4 The dishonest way that then Premier, Nathan Rees declared the national park without waiting for the final report.

Kath Moorse

20/7/12