

Submission
No 481

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date received: 30/08/2012

Partially Confidential

**The Secretary
General Purpose Standing Committee No5
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney. NSW 2000**

Management of Public Land in NSW (Inquiry).

Date 29th August 2012.

Submission

Submission for the values and the importance's of National Parks and other conservation areas

The NSW State Government Land inquiry.

Management of the State`s public land and impact of converting crown Land, State Forests or agricultural land into National Parks or other conservation areas.

The Committees Chair, *Shooters and Fishers Party MLC Mr Robert Brown*, The Committee will look into various case studies, including River Red Gum State forests in the Southern Riverina, native hardwood State forests in northern NSW , Yanga Station and Toorale Station.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a concerned Australian writing in response to the horror of what is happening in this day and age. Finding out that the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) has decided to cut environment laws across the board. The only reason I can think this is happening is to side up with the loggers and miners.

Every where I am both hearing and reading how Australian communities are being broken and divided as a result of poor management of logging and mining companies going out of control. Our wildlife is still being decimated when it should be fully protected.

1. FIRSTLY, ALL OF OUR NATIONAL PARKS MUST BE PROTECTED.

They are obviously the last bastions where our wildlife is clinging to live and survive. I can no longer sit back to see the atrocities that are happening around our city and in Australia. So many Australians like myself are crying out to protect what is left.

2. FROM MY RESEARCH, IT APPEARS TO ALL BE A RESULT OF BAD MANAGEMENT, POOR PLANNING AND NO VISION.

We don't need coal. McDonalds employs more Australians than do the mining companies. I want to see the expansion of Coal Seam Gas and Open Cut Coal Mines stopped in this state. They are going out of control and moving fast to avoid the public from stopping the damage they are causing to our land, forests, the toxic water they are creating leaving open for our wildlife to drink and die.

3. SHOOTERS IN OUR NATIONAL PARKS – CLEARLY THERE IS NO CONTROL OR MANAGEMENT. WHO IS IN THE PARKS TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THE SHOOTERS?

From what I am reading, they are not controlled. There are many reports of our wildlife being killed. Our kangaroos, wallabies, wombats and many other species that must be fully protected. Who is in the parks now to monitor and control the shooters? I am sure some are responsible and shooting the ferals. Others are hooligans just shooting at anything that moves. Absolutely no respect for our magnificent wildlife being shot in their homes, the national parks where they are all meant to be protected. **What on earth is happening to our country? We are moving back into the Dark Ages?** Already the numbers are dangerously low for so many species. When I travel to the country, I want to go to our national parks to enjoy the beauty and see the wildlife around me, which nature has given us. I don't want to see what I value so much and love be destroyed by greed. Our native forests must all be protected.

4. LOGGING HAS GONE OUT OF CONTROL

Why are there not logging plantations which I believed, they would have established by now. There is absolutely no need for loggers to destroy the remaining native forests. They need to be trained to replant the trees, watch them grow ready to be cut again in the future. Not in our native forests. PROTECT WHAT LITTLE IS LEFT. This I believe should be protected for us all to enjoy and future generations.

5. ANY FORM OF MINING MUST BE MANAGED AND KEPT OUT OF ANY NATIVE FOREST. WHETHER STATE OR OTHER.

It is clear that the mining companies are bullying farmers and gradually buying up precious farmland that needs to be kept for agriculture. NOT TO BE RIPPED OPEN BY MINERS AND TURNED INTO MOONSCAPES WITH NO LIFE. Only to be left abandoned when nothing is left. Why are they not controlled to level out the holes they

created and return the original topsoil with seeds from the former forest that they should have preserved for the bush to grow back?
These are tragedies that can be avoided.

6. KOALAS ARE IN GREAT DECLINE. WE ARE CLOSE TO LOSING OUR MOST PRECIOUS ICON AND STILL APPROVAL IS GIVEN TO LOG LEARD FOREST AND DESTROYS PILLIGA. MORE MADNESS

Why on earth has coal seam gas taken place in the Pilliga destroying the amazing wildlife that is there? The rivers contaminated by dumping toxic water into them? The koalas there are also declining rapidly.

And Leard State forest. I saw the Google earth shots. They have already cleared a large part of the forest. Why on earth has the second stage been approved? They must be stopped. There are koalas in that forest also. The forest that must be protected!! It the habitat of the koalas. No amount of money will bring back this magnificent forest. It is sheer madness that this is happening in this day and age. We don't need coal or coal seam gas. Solar power is sufficient. From what I can see:

Basically there is a lack of proper control at the state level of industry players leaving and re entering the industry over various periods of time without taking into account the true volume of timber available and giving out contracts that have huge amounts of compensation payable to the industry players if timber volumes cannot be met, resulting in over cutting.

I don't want to see our native forests turned into gardens. With no wildlife. That is what people come here for from around the world. To see our wildlife thriving and living safely in their own habitats. No as road kill or dismembered and crushed by the miners that care nothing for life. Only bulldozing down our amazing forests.

The big question now is how this was allowed to happen and how can we find a solution? From my research, there are similar issues with forestry in other states.

One solution to help overcome this is to have a Federal body fully in charge of forestry contracts and take the responsibility away from the States. As it is obvious the States are having difficulties handling these issues.

I fear this inquiry will try to find a need and ways to open our magnificent National Parks to industrial scale logging without taking into account the value of water catchment protection, tourism with long- term economic benefits rather than the short term devastating gains of miners. World heritage and also the importance of the value of old growth forests and rainforests. All the biodiversity and maximum protection of endangered flora and fauna.

Any form of degradation from impacts of mining, logging, the expansion of roads through to horse riding, trail biking in environmentally sensitive areas in various protected lands is devastating. Once more Australians become awake to what is at stake. There will be quite an uproar and action taken by many individuals as you can already see. Everywhere we are coming together to protect our magnificent wild places.

It is also a matter of importance and the time is now that the tourism industry makes a stand to promote nationally and protect the values of our national parks estates instead of leaving it to the many and various environmental groups to fight these battles.

Please consider carefully all of what I have written, as the actions of Australians will not stop with letters to protect our magnificent national parks, native forests (even if they are state forests) and our much loved wildlife that we hold dear to us. This I speak on behalf of most Australians that are not yet aware of such tragic and devastating action

Our country is magnificent, attracting people from all over the world. I can assure you once it has been turned into a moonscape. No one will want to know anything about this country. I want to see our country, lush, green and full of wildlife. Development and industry must be managed.

Kind regards,

Concerned Citizen

I have made not donations of any kind to any political party in my lifetime.