

**Submission
No 36**

**INQUIRY INTO LOCAL LAND SERVICES AMENDMENT
(MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2020**

Name: Mr Scott White
Date Received: 22 February 2021

1. Planning instruments like the Koala SEPP are designed for urban and peri urban areas, and do not take into account how agricultural land and agri-business is conducted
2. Private landholders manage the majority of the landscape of NSW, and in doing so protect koalas and other vulnerable species from fire and pests. The SEPP will stop the ability of land owners to manage their land and put koalas in a more vulnerable position
3. The SEPP can turn off the land management code, causing significant interruption to farming businesses and preventing activities such as thinning that protect koalas. No assessment has been done to understand the extent of this damage to agriculture.
4. The SEPP relies on the theoretical location of tree species to define habitat of koalas, and in doing so can quarantine land from agriculture for no reason when koalas are not there, but may have been 18 years ago. It is untenable to bring in a regulation of land without knowing which land it will effect, and to what extent.
5. The governments' reforms to the LLS Act and with the Biodiversity Conservation Act in 2016, provide both incentive to protect koalas, and protection through strong laws
6. Decoupling the Koala SEPP from the LLS act retains these strong measures to foster koala survival and regulate their management without harming productivity
7. Good environmental outcomes rely on participation by land owners not prohibition by Government.
8. To assist koala populations, the knowledge and experience of rural land owners should be used, and complimented by incentive and education, not by locking up productive land.
9. It's time to give regenretive farmers a go, stop listening to the loud minority and see farmers for who they are. People who a proud to feed Australia, while continually improving farming techniques and looking after the environment
10. My family and I have lived on my farm for 132 years and have never even seen a koala or its dropping