INQUIRY INTO LOCAL LAND SERVICES AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2020

Organisation: Rassel Logging Pty Ltd

Date Received: 25 February 2021

Les and Sarah Stone Rassel Logging pty ltd Firefly, NSW

Portfolio Committee 7 Planning and Environment Legislative Council NSW

Inquiry into the Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020

Submission by

Email to: PortfolioCommittee7@parliament.nsw.gov.au

The BILL

In reference to the Objects in the Bill:

Clause "b"

Position: supported
Removal of dual consent

For private native forestry, the Bill removes the need for dual consent and the unnecessary involvement of Councils, who have no expertise or specialist knowledge in forest science. Under the current governance arrangements, the process is far from satisfactory. On the north coast alone, there are 35 individual Councils each taking a different approach to how private native forestry is treated. For private landholders required to obtain development approval, the process is akin to a lottery. Removing the involvement of Councils will remove this uncertainty without removing the LLS regulatory framework, which provides environmental protection.

Clause "c"

Position: supported

Extension of PNF plans to 30 years.

The provision that extends the approval period of a PNF Plan from 15 to 30 years is another important measure. The additional time will provide landholders with the confidence they need to invest in their forests' future, potentially seek forest certification and reduces the need to maximise timber revenue in single harvesting events. This measure will be both good for the forest and good for the environment.

Les and Sarah Stone Rassel Logging pty ltd Firefly, NSW

Clause "d"

Position: supported

Ensuring that the Minister administering the Forestry Act and the Minister administering the Fisheries Management Act are consulted on the formulation of the PNF Code is important.

Clause "e"

Position: supported

Allowables under Schedule 5 of the Local Land Services Act should be permitted on a range of Standard Template LEP Zones, including E-Zones and Rural Zones.

Additional Comments on Private Native Forestry and the Bill

Rassal logging is a small private native harvesting company employing 6 people near Gloucester NSW. Another 2 people rely on us for haulage and many sawmills rely on our operation to keep them going

We have been in business for over 25 years striving to be environmentally conscious in our operation.

We feel that the dual consent part of the legislation needs to be removed to prevent confusion between local government areas. One piece of state legislation could be worked with rather than 120 different council policies. I feel this is unworkable as I work across up to 10 local government areas.

Thankyou Les and Sarah Stone