

Submission  
No 24

**INQUIRY INTO LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY AND  
FUTURE OF THE TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS  
INDUSTRY**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 21 May 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

Dear Committee

I am writing to you all to urge you to consider the following and assist the Australian community with its transition to sustainability; to ensure that the logging industry and operators make massive reforms and change this industry, NOW, once and for all, for real. Stop the sham farce that it is. Stop the waste, corruption and mismanagement. Stop political cronyism. Stop the erosion of habitat, halt the ecocide and turn around this trajectory to irreversible outcomes, that can only be devastating to us all.

WE need everyone on board to change the way things are, to admit that current 'forestry' practices do not serve us any longer. We can't afford the ridiculous waste, just because these practices are the legacy of the past. Our ignorance has already cost too much, too much topsoil, too many species, There is no point in continuing with this blatant industry-led corruption (by Forestry Corporation NSW, affectionately known as F-Corpse). Trashing ecosystems, burning biomass, selling off precious assets (trees) at a loss (our loss), to foreign interests simply makes no sense! They no longer have any social license in modern Australia. F-Corpse is a corporate sham.

We do not agree to this never-ending Ecocide...We never did. Everyday people want the forests left alone. Preserved for eternity. In Perpetuity for our children and the generations to come. WE keep on planting .. Acting to make a difference, however small. But it is time for industry to get serious out there in the field. To plant your own! Plantations that can be monitored, measured and micro-managed to produce more, using viable methodologies (mixed agroforestry etc). We have the scientific and traditional knowledge and the advantage of plenty of barren wasteland, ripe for some regeneration and restoration!

Australia needs to grow up, wake up, wise up and evolve. Peacefully if possible.

With your help... WE can turn this around. Save Our Soils, and Save Our Species, including Ourselves... S.O.S...

Please... Do Something Good.

Be the modern Men of the Trees (I notice all the women are off the Committee!?)

Don't waste this incredible opportunity by allowing things to continue as they are...

To an unsustainable End.

Our forests, our flora and fauna, our future... are unique, incredible, precious and important. Really important. To us... Our lives depend on the URGENT protection and conservation of what little is left of Our Natural Estate. Our Forests. Our National Parks and State Reserves. Crown Lands, the 'Country' of our indigenous elders and their ancestors. We must learn to honour the Custodians who cared for this Country for eons, before we arrived here en masse to chop it down and burn it, raze it to the ground. Using practices like 'grubbing' and 'ringing' (ringbarking) and then burning the trees as and where they stood. Such disrespect and waste. This has to end....

Our future is at stake. Our climate has already changed, whether we like it or not... and we are living with constant reminders of this. Droughts, Fires, floods and pest plagues are the result of an imbalanced ecosystem. Obvious. The rest of the world already uses the term ' Our Changed Climate, but no not here, not in Australia... still living in the '50's!

The only way forward is to reboot the system, to shift the status quo. We can't change the past but we can create the future. Intitiate real change in the right direction, towards something resembling ecosystem 'balance'. To shift this destructive industry and change it into something

way better. A real, functional, effective industry, with sustainable jobs, careers, outcomes and beneficial effects. Are you going to help us in this process? I hope so....

I am a qualified Ecological Restorationist, Agroforester and Seed Bank Manager by profession. Also anthropologist (Human Ecology/Ethnobiology) and Forest Activist.

I have lived and worked to restore many of the world's forests over the past 35 years (in Brazil, India and Oceania) and can inform you that the global 'forest' situation is shocking, with Australia being a serious global deforestation offender. Second to Brazil. Australia is often voted down as the Global 'Baddie' at UN COP and MOP events. Australia's politicians are seen as ignorant hypocrites and sometimes just plain dumb. Are you going to let this continue? Or is this Committee actually going to do something good, something constructive and real, to change the situation? To wise up and encourage young Australians, to create 'sustainable' jobs for them, to face up to the old cronies and old-school loggers... and create a modern plantation-based timber (and forest products) industry. One that can be designed to produce harvestable bushfoods and medicines (etc), to provide critical habitat (including for Koalas, Gliders and a multitude of other Endangered and Critically Endangered species), and to protect what little is left of Australia's precious biodiversity - full of uniquely 'useful' plants and an undocumented repository of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK).

At present the NSW timber industry is a national disgrace, disgusting and entirely unsustainably managed and operated. Again I urge you to do what you can. I implore you to do more than just write your report filled with verbose recommendations that may be purposefully ignored by the higher echelons. Make sure that does not happen! PLEASE. We are heading towards a Federal Election and this issue will be critical to party politics, as always. Transparency and long-term accountability will become the issue. Not nauseating profit over people...

I urge you to go out and visit the States' Forest Reserves, to sit in and amongst nature, to observe what is there, to see what is being trashed and what is being lost... and then write about it, bearing in mind that it is 2021 and this is already our childrens' future NOW.

THANK YOU for reading my heartfelt plea to you all...

Yours sincerely,