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

Name: Mr Mike Mizzi

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In 2002 I was given infringement notices by State forests NSW now Forest corp. I had entered a log dump to film loggers destroying lyrebird habitat. I was threatened with violence by a chainsaw operator who was never charged. The infringements bar one were upheld on appeal by me and this ended up costing me\$4500 personally. I was unemployed studying at University and having my first child. I was also building my house. After leaving the Forest, Ewingar Forest, the loggers set it on fire destroying over 15000 hectares of bushland and several houses. No one was held accountable and compensation was paid to victims costing the NSW government hundreds of thousands of dollars. It seems that loggers are a protected species in Australia while those species in real need of protection are consistently sent into ever decreasing areas. The ecological damage Forest corp does is appalling. The environmental and economic cost of this industry can never become sustainable as the resources that they exploit are exhausted. All native forest logging must end, Forest corp disbanded and a new plantation model using degraded farmland be instigated immediately. The management of our forests must be handed over to scientists whose major criteria is the protection of Australia's unique wildlife. There's no sustainable way to manage native forests and this greeneashing by politicians must end.