

**Submission  
No 151**

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

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Dear Committee,

I live in a forest that is not far from a State forest. I live here because of the incredible beauty and diversity of nature in this environment. Living amongst the different ecosystems, flora and fauna, the multitude of life cycles happening simultaneously makes it very easy to see that everything in the forest is interdependent. As we are on forests for the climate we live in.

Given the immense amount of knowledge now available supporting the protection and preservation of Native forests from industry and other injury it is surprising that this enquiry is even happening. Deforestation should have stopped 30 years ago and creative solutions to people's desire for timber be found. Deforesting/harvesting for pulp timber and pallet making etc is a global crime given global warming.

We rely on forests for biodiversity, carbon sequestration, water production and therefore planetary cooling.

“Logging native forests is marginally profitable at best and a sinkhole for taxpayer money at worst”,SMH, 2016

The devastating loss of 12 million hectares of forest following the fires of 2019 and 2020, between 60-80% of NSW forests makes it unconscionable to consider continuing the hardwood timber industry out of public native forests.

The recovery of our native forests is critical, given their role in bringing rain, filtering and regulating water flow, recapturing atmospheric carbon, and providing habitat that is the basis for biodiversity. These fires take conservation into uncharted territory, making the preservation of any undisturbed habitat the highest priority.

This enquiry is an opportunity to reimagine the future of our public forests as ecological and recreational reserves. The hardwood timber industry needs to transition towards plantations and a well-managed and boutique private forestry sector.

Really the only choice we humans have in this current planetary situation is to completely stop deforestation.

We have no time left to keep killing trees while the climate is changing/ heating so rapidly. They are the huge air conditioners our planet needs.

Yours in great concern,

Peach Darvall