

Submission
No 155

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 28 May 2021

Partially
Confidential

1. The harvesting/logging of all NSW Native Forests should stop, with the transition to full sourcing from plantations starting immediately..

The withdrawal should initially be from those forests that contain catchment for creek and river systems on which towns and/or farming or residential communities depend, and/or are recognised as especially important ecologically, with forests especially susceptible to crown fires., and from those areas affected by the 2019 fires.

2. The funds released from elimination of what is effectively subsidisation of the uneconomic native forest harvesting should be redeployed to transition these forests toward National Park or Nature Reserve status with, as appropriate, development as tourist attractions and/or educational facilities..

3. The transition should include measures to support workers and contractors made redundant by the change, Studies have demonstrated that tourism is a much bigger employer than forestry, and opportunities should be offered for the (relatively small) number of displaced workers to apply their expertise and local knowledge as, for example, tour guides and/or rangers in track and other maintenance work, and in restoration of ecosystems that have been damaged by prior logging.. This expertise should also be applied to the identification and protection of pockets (perhaps previously unrecorded) of rare or threatened species of flora and fauna..

I can supply supportive references on request.