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

Name: Christopher Grubb

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Dear Committee,

Please see below my submission into the Inquiry into Long term sustainability and future of the timber and forest products industry.

I am writing as a NSW resident, voter and bird lover who is deeply concerned about the decline and extinction of the Swift Parrot and its Spotted Gum forests of the New South Wales south coast.

The dramatic declines in virtually every species of Australian birds is overwhelmingly due to habitat loss.

Habitat once lost is very expensive to restore and species once lost never return. Forestry should be confined to areas where the most threatened species such as the Swift parrot do NOT feed.

The forests of New South Wales are critical feeding habitat for these birds. In particular, the Spotted Gum forests of the New South Wales south coast are well-documented as one of the most important mainland foraging areas for Swift Parrots.

Unless decisive action is taken to protect the remaining forest habitat across their range and improve and fund management actions, Swift Parrots will disappear forever and the guilt will remain with those responsible forever.

- Amend the CIOFA to exclude all known and potential Swift Parrot foraging habitat.
- Amend the CIFOA to address the effects of climate change, including increased bush fires and droughts.
- Conserve remaining intact native forests and facilitate the expansion and connectivity of old growth native forests.
- Develop a forest industry transition plan with a focus on wood production from sustainable and appropriately placed plantations.
- Invest in sustainable tourism infrastructure and opportunities for local communities, tapping into the economic value and services of natural areas in NSW.
- Explore nature-based solution incentives, such as carbon markets, to finance forest conservation.

Yours sincerely, christopher grubb