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Sent: Sunday, April 18, 2010 2:53 PM

To: 'newsdesk@smh.com.au'

Subject: Logging on Mumbulla Mountain on the far south coast of NSW

To Peter Fray

Logging is taking place on Mumbulla Mountain on the far south coast of NSW. Mumbulla Mountain is within a few kilometres of the coast between Bermagui and Tathra, east of Wapengo Lake, home to black swans and the best oysters Australia can offer. The mountain itself features one of the last remaining coastal temperate rainforests – full of tree ferns, epiphytes and giant eucalypts of all types, goannas, and a myriad of birds and marsupials, including one of the last, if not the last, koala colonies in south east Australia.

Much of the mountain is part of Biamanga National Park, owned by the Yuin people and leased back to National Parks and Wildlife. Some sections are owned by NSW Forests. For weeks before Easter, NSW Forests spent many tens of thousands of dollars widening the bush roads so that NSW Forests could bring in the machinery. The day before Good Friday the logging started, even though National Parks and Wildlife had found koala scats throughout the forest and within 500 metres of the logging site. Not content to hide the devastation caused by logging, a 20 metre strip of trees was cut down along the road leading to a major tourist destination, Mumbulla Creek Falls, once site of initiation ceremonies for Yuin men. Despite local protesters, including Yuin elders, wishing to stop the logging, the logging continues.

Eden Timber Mill is reportedly buying the logs for less than \$2 a tonne, much of it destined for woodchip. Eden Timber Mill is also proposing to build a wood fired power station to use the 'waste' of this natural forest. While harvesting of select timbers in natural forests managed by NSW Forests could employ more loggers and cause less erosion and other harm by not using so much machinery, it appears on all accounts this heavily tax payer subsidized industry is determined to survive on its own terms whatever the cost, despite more economical and practical alternatives for producing paper and energy.

I would ask a journalist in the SMH to take up this issue and write an article. This issue is not going to subside any time soon, given the prospect of a wood fired power station. For further information please contact

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Dan Katz – email - dankatz83@hotmail.com

Yours Sincerely

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Road to Mumbulla Creek Falls before the loggers came



Road to Mumbulla Creek Falls after two days of logging



Road to further logging off the road to Mumbulla Creek Falls



The Machine and the end product