

**LETTER TO: GERRY NORMAN, LOIS KATZ 29.09.2011**

From: dankatz83@hotmail.com

To: kristine.michael@au.harveynorman.com

Subject: Use True Plantation Wood - It's Good

Date: Thu, 29 Sep 2011 01:57:01 +0000

Dear Gerry Norman,

Whilst I'm not saying that Harvey Norman is responsible for all the destruction that is happening everyday in the native forests of Victoria and Tasmania, Harvey Norman is a large part of the problem.

I'm sure that you have seen the photos of our native forests where logging has occurred to service your furniture production. There is no need to take your wood from our native forests. You should be using the plantation wood that is available.

Australia is losing its native animals at a faster rate than any developed nation. We should be ashamed of this and work to save those native animals instead of continuing the logging of their homes.

The logging of our native forests is greatly subsidised by governments. I suppose that these tax breaks make the wood that is cut down in our native forests cheaper to buy. But we should be using that tax money to support sustainable industries such as true plantation wood and to help solar energy and wind power get established. Instead we are squandering the chance to be a world leader and are going down the easier 'business as usual' path.

Perhaps you weren't aware that Australia's native trees are the most carbon dense trees in the world. If we would stop cutting them down right now, we could save millions and millions of tonnes of carbon from being released into our air. This would go a long way to helping fight climate change.

Some people are claiming that because they plant new trees when they log old forests that they have done their duty for the environment. The fact is that young trees do not absorb much carbon at all. Trees over 100 years old make the best carbon sinks. People can say what they like, but Nature will go ahead and follow her own formula. We can't alter it and we must respect it.

I'm writing this to you so that you can see that you are in a position to make a difference for the good in the world. I hope that Harvey Norman uses this opportunity to be a leader in change for the betterment of all people. Please accept the truth and do what is right. Stop benefiting from the cutting down of Australia's irreplaceable native forests and take a stand for a happier and healthier future for our descendants.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours, Lois Katz