

SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES: SAVE NSW AND AUSTRALIAN FORESTS

Virginia Casey, 6th March 2018

Destruction of native forests at a time of a growing awareness of climate change cannot be allowed to continue. The destruction of old growth forests is a criminal action in light of all the obvious signs that we in Australia are reaping the effects of past attitudes to conservation of the environment and especially forests.

It goes against all logic and sense of responsibility that any Government would allow, let alone endorse the exploitation of forests especially when scientific research and proof exists that the removal of trees threatens not only the rainfall, but adds to significant greenhouse gasses being released, or not removed from the environment.

It makes no sense to me that logging of Australian forests is once again being considered, when at this time the Australian Government has implemented plans and guidelines and rules for all urban blocks of land and larger land being developed or built upon now to pay large sums of money for environmental reports by experts to save native scrub and wild flowers etc. Admirable as it is that some Government departments are becoming more aware of a need to conserve, it is entirely contradictory to look at saving flora in suburbia and at the same time consider engaging in wide scale destruction of forests, and flora and fauna. Added to the destruction for commercial greed is the significant loss of flora and fauna, where large areas of land are left barren and wildlife has no habitat.

In the past, such decisions to allow such deforestation and exploitation could have been seen as endorsed perhaps out of ignorance, but now there is clear evidence that global warming/ climate change is not only real, but threatening the welfare of people, economies and crops food all need to live. Climate change is real and past decisions- actions have directly contributed to the ever-present extremes of temperature and irregular rainfall experienced in Australia and the rest of the world.

Now is time to call a halt to the continued practise of removing forests that are all important in removing carbon dioxide from the air and contributing to the buildup of greenhouse gasses.

It is time common sense and a responsibility for the care of this planet was made manifest by considered thought being given to the heavy responsibility of making decisions which would continue to destroy the precious forests of Australia. The thought that forests, especially old growth forests are being cleared or sold for wood chip is beyond comprehension, it is criminal, and any politician or companies who endorse such actions will be viewed by the voting public and future generations as guilty of crimes against nature and be heavily judged.

It is time to allow the enlightened thoughts that we as humans need forests for clean air we breathe but also the beauty and richness of life which comes when forests are left to hold that regal balance of life we all enjoy. Forests give life in abundance, let wisdom rule, do not allow a return to the past decisions and actions which if allowed do add to Global Warming and rapid Climate Change.

Vote for life! Do not allow a return to the removal of our precious forests; they are the lungs of the Earth.