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**Topic 1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW**

Due to a rapidly changing climate I believe that current/future forestry operations will open up our forests to more intensive fire regimes which will both destroy forest timber and the flora and fauna the forests support. Such a position has been clearly outlined in findings related to the 2019-2020 bush fires.

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**Topic 2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values**

Given the large loss of biodiversity due to both large scale land clearing over the past 230 years and the introduction of feral animals and plants it is my contention that what remains of our forests should be retained as both a reservoir for conservation and as a bulwark against continuing CO2 emissions.

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**Topic 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail**

In my observations of new housing construction and other building projects the timber used seems to be softwoods which have come from plantation trees. As well a number of projects seem to be all metal construction. Pallets used in transport also appear to be either overseas softwood or locally produced from plantation timber.

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**Topic 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs**

I believe that all future needs can be met from both hardwood and softwood plantations. Enough land used for failed agriculture and horticultural ventures should be rehabilitated and the additional timber needed to sustain our building industry produced from these areas. Certainly no further logging in forested areas should be contemplated. Absolutely no clearing of forested woodland need be used to establish future plantations!!!

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**Topic 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models**

It seems that while State Forests are able to deliver a range of both environmental and social outcomes, which could be improved upon, it would appear that economic benefits are problematic at best and loss making at worst. How can the State Forests be economic if they need to be subsidized from NSW Treasury.

**Topic 6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests**

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A classic example of this opportunity to safeguard biodiversity is clearly being squandered by State Forests as they continue to log habitat timber and so either degrade or indeed destroy large areas of the proposed Great Koala National Park before it is declared as a National Park. I am reminded of a Monty Python sketch in the film Holy Grail. A knight guarding access to the GKNP is confronted by the King Arthur with a retinue perhaps representing State Forests. After an altercation with the King the guarding knight is left without arms or legs, claiming the injuries as "Tis but a scratch", while State Forests continue to accompany Arthur and degrade the GKNP.