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

I believe forestry operations are sustainable given the historical longevity of the industry and minimal impact on forest health. Without a sustainable forestry operation housing affordability issues would be further exacerbated along with regional work opportunity.

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

Forests have substantial values for environment and cultural heritage. It is unfortunate that these values were not recognised sooner allowing for clear felling of forests for development rather than integrating development within forests. I don't see any type of commercial operation that maintains the forest intact as having a negative impact on these values

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

Without home grown timber we would be reliant on imports some potentially sourced from countries that don't have a sustainable regulatory framework.

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

The existing plantations will not be able to meet demand on their own. There is currently not enough volume of timber products being recycled to reduce demand on virgin timber. Given there appears to be no overarching plan by government to promote large scale recycling opportunities then native forestry is the only alternative.

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

State forests are places that foster environmental, economic and social outcomes already. There are also recreational and educational benefits realised by regional communities that are dependant on healthy forests.

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

If trees are not replaced with smaller faster growing trees the greenhouse gas offset is reduced. Allbeit the large trees have greater opportunities for carbon benefits, the smaller trees harvested make way for new growth with greater immediate climate benefits.