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

I've been in forestry for 49 years. The continuance of the industry, investment in technology and research and the quality of the forest being so good its worth fighting over for conservation uses is evidence it is sustainable. I support its continued use now and for the future.

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

Forest harvesting is good for the forest. Harvesting is selective and managed to encourage the growth of the best trees, removes the risk of fire and keeps the important trees for habitat and food. Removing timber harvesting as a management tool from the forest threatens the environmental and cultural values of the through lack of management.

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

I think the demand for timber has increased. The logs that are available now, compared to pre RFA's are not as good. The logs quality is not as good because the forests available for harvesting are not the top forests from before the RFAs. The timber we mill is done carefully to get the most from the logs and keep up with supply.

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

There wont be enough wood from plantations at the rate they are being removed for other land uses. The small amount hardwood plantations owned by state is not managed. Plantations need to be managed and thinned to grow big logs.

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 need to be managed for wood to be managed for good environmental, economic and social outcomes. The poorest outcome would be to lock it up, watch the forests become stagnant and unhealthy or to burn in the coming summers.

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

Trees and soil store carbon in the forest. Timber stores carbon until it breaks down becoming soil again. Regenerating forests use more carbon than stagnant forests.

Public submission

Managing our forests well, as we do, forgoes the cost of importing timber or manufacturing alternatives. If more people thought about the cost of the alternatives of managing our forests for timber, as has been done for over a century, this wouldn't be the argument it is today.