



Monday, 7 April 2014

Remake of the Coastal IFOAS
Environment Protection Authority,
Level 12 PO Box A290
Sydney South NSW 1232

By email: ifoa.remake@epa.nsw.gov.au

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RE: SUBMISSION TO THE REMAKE OF THE COASTAL INTEGRATED FORESTRY OPERATIONS APPROVALS (IFOA) DISCUSSION PAPER – FEBRUARY 2014.

I wish to make this submission in response to the public consultation.

The forest industry in NSW and more specifically in my local area contributes to employment and the general well-being of our community. Any changes to legislation that makes forest harvesting and production more cost effective while continuing to protect those parts of the native forest that are environmentally significant, is always welcomed.

While I understand that this remake of the IFOA for the coastal areas will improve the way in which the forest contractors and Forest Corporation of NSW can operate and will remove a lot of paper work, I am worried that the area of forest that they have made available to them to produce wood seems to be contracting. Many of these companies have been operating for over a hundred years and the forests are still producing wood supplies despite the environmental critics saying the forests would all die.

I understand that the changes proposed to the IFOA are designed to make a very complex system more easily understood by contractors and regulators. The move to one licence instead of 4 different and complex licences is a good proposal and should make operations clearer for those who work in the native forest.

I support the proposal to ensure that contractors have minimum competency standards as it will bring them into line with other similar contractors in other industries who already have to meet minimum standards. This will improve the operations within the forest and make sure that there is a high level of professionalism in the timber harvesting workforce.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make comment on the proposed Remake of the Coastal IFOA.

Yours faithfully

