Subject: Submission to Discussion Paper on Changes to logging operations in NSW State Forests

Premier O'Farrell,

I wish to make a short submission to the discussion paper on changes to regulated logging operations in NSW State Forests.

The discussion paper proposes a range of damaging changes to integrated forestry operations approvals (IFOA), including:

 \cdot weakening protections for our most vulnerable native plants and animals

removing requirements for pre-logging threatened species surveys
removing restrictions on intensive logging operations and clear felling

• increasing erosion and water pollution risks by allowing logging on very steep slopes.

I am totally opposed to all of these changes to logging operations in NSW. These changes, if implemented, will cause unnecessary destruction on Native Forests already threatened by needless wood chip logging operation across NSW. These changes will lead to increased erosion and loss of habitat, increased flooding in down stream area, increased sedimentation in waterways and estuaries and the increased in carbon pollution. As well as creating a more fire hazardous environment.

Forestry NSW needs to catch up to the 21st century and adhere to environmental protection actions in a more coherent and meaningful fashion. Logging of Native forests needs to Stop and the move be made to the plantation sector. There are adequate plantations available for easy harvest, without the subsequent environmental damage to natural ecological systems.

I believe threatened species logging prescriptions need to be strengthened. Logging operation should be halted for woodchip pulp log extraction and environmental protections increased to protect tourism and threatened species and habitat..

i trust that this will be a REAL review of the inadequacies of the current system, and that the review is stringent and urgently moves forestry operations into the plantation sector. this will benefit regional economies, environment and long term aims for carbon reduction and carbon storage in aging trees. Win win for all.

sincerely Skye Etherington

