

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 23 February 2018 3:12 PM
To: EPA RSD Forestry Strategic Regulation and Reform Mailbox
Cc: forests@industry.nsw.gov.au; campaigns@environment.gov.au
Subject: Don't renew the NSW Regional Forest Agreements

Environmental Protection Authority NSW Regional Forest Agreements Forestry Branch

I want to add my voice to the opposition to renewal of the NSW Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs).

It is extraordinary shortsightedness that a native icon is being destroyed by allowing public native forest logging to be exempt even from Commonwealth environment laws. Australia is extinguishing native species at an extraordinary rate. RFA's have allowed the population of animals including koalas to massively decline while not even making the logging industry sustainable. Our economy is more complex than just clear and sell. Tourism, health and preservation of the natural environment and our unique flora and fauna have a claim on government responsibility.

It appears the Berejiklian and Turnbull governments are already committed to their extension against the overwhelming public support, shown by polling in the seats of Ballina and Lismore, for protecting native forests. This is out of touch with growing public concerns expressed for example in the Adani opposition.

Proposals like the Great Koala National Park will help protect koalas, as well as bringing jobs to local communities in forest management, restoration and nature-based tourism.

The extent of the public's desire for Government leadership on preserving our natural environment should not be underestimated. I therefore urge the Commonwealth governments not to renew RFAs because they are a failed model for forest management and to protect native forests in the interests of the bigger picture of the environment and the wellbeing of future generations.

I confirm that my submission does not contain sensitive information and can be published in full on the Environment Protection Authority and/or the Department of Primary Industries website.

I understand that the Environment Protection Authority, Department of Primary Industries and/or the independent reviewer may contact me about my submission.

Sincerely,

Maria
Purnell

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ACT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

cc:
Department of Primary Industries Forestry Department of Primary Industries Environment Protection Authority

cc:
The Hon. Josh Frydenberg
Minister for the Environment