

I wish to lodge a Submission for the above report, on the subject of forest management. 20% of global gas emissions come from deforestation and forest degradation, and Australia's record in both is poor. We have Regional Forest Agreements which are not adequately mapped or adhered to, but seem to be in place to protect the oversubsidised forest industry. Links to the powerful Forestry Union and the present Labor Minister Ferguson's own links with this Union seem to have overridden the real requirements of genuine forest management. The Dept of Sustainability and Environment maintains policies which are ill-conceived and poorly implemented. For example the policy of "controlled" burns (frequently under supervised and carried out according to advance planning, and with little regard for prevailing conditions of weather or suitability) and the construction of firebreaks which are destructive and unnecessary..as we're all aware how fire leaps from treetop to treetop, with no regard for major roads, or firebreaks. These are the points that I would like to make, and wish to be taken into consideration when drawing up this report.

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