



**Respondent No:** 538

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**Responded At:** Jul 12, 2018 22:11:59 pm

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- Q1. **First name** Anne
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- Q2. **Last name** Higginson
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- Q3. **Phone** not answered
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- Q4. **Mobile** not answered
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- Q5. **Email** [REDACTED]
- Q6. **Postcode** [REDACTED]
- Q7. **Country** not answered
- Q8. **Stakeholder type** Individual
- Q9. **Stakeholder type - Other**  
not answered
- Q10. **Stakeholder type - Staff**  
not answered
- Q11. **Organisation name** not answered
- Q12. **What is your preferred method of contact?** Email
- Q13. **Would you like to receive further information and updates on IFOA and forestry matters?** Yes
- Q14. **Can the EPA make your submission public?** Yes
- Q15. **Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues?** No
- Q16. **What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA are most important to you? Why?**  
not answered
- Q17. **What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a positive outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?**  
not answered

**Q18. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a negative outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?**

not answered

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**Q19. What are your views on the effectiveness of the combination of permanent environmental protections at the regional, landscape and operational scales (multi-scale protection)?**

not answered

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**Q20. In your opinion, would the draft Coastal IFOA be effective in managing environmental values and a sustainable timber industry? Why?**

not answered

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**Q21. General comments**

Dear Premier Gladys Berejiklian I am writing to urge you to consider that the Regional Forestry Agreements have failed to deliver environmental protection or industry security, and that the proposed new rules will exponentially add to this unprosperous decline. The benefits of timbered forests are vital for the future health and economies of regional NSW. You would also be aware Premier that living in a regional community means paying a higher price for many utilities and services than our city cousins. This applies to everyone in this position, not only the 800 odd employees working in native timber industry. No doubt you are aware of the proposal to establish the Great Koala National Park - a means to keep both the wider community's investment in a natural and sustainable environment and the NSW governments need for an economic resource that is not loosing money. I understand that other options for long term financial security and employment for regional communities without desolating our public owned forests have also been put to the your Government. And, unlike historical and proposed new rules, the flow-on bankable effects are not exhaustible. It is also deeply worrying that the proposed new rules discount the undeniable health benefits associated with our connection to the natural world. Essentially it is a denial of the fundamental governing principle of equality and freedom of opportunity. I am of the view that the proposed new laws are prioritising native timber supply over the environment and the NSW tax payers purse, to advantage contracts with timber suppliers. I am concerned to learn that contracts for native timber supplies with Boral have already been signed through until 2028. This suggests that notwithstanding the consultation process, the new laws are considered a shoe-in. This mocks the views of NSW tax payers who own this forested public land and is an injudicious continuation of the theme that has pervaded the historical management of Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals. In short, I do not accept the Governments arguments for proposing new Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals to: - reduce buffers in head-water streams from 10 meters to 5 meters - remove specifications for threatened species protections when the independent science says 72 per cent threatened plant species will lose all protection and 9 per cent species will have reduced protection. - remove the need to look for and protect koalas prior to logging - establish a 140,000 ha intensive clear fell area between Grafton and Taree I respectfully ask that your Government gives serious consideration to the issues raised in my submission and thank you for the opportunity to comment. Yours Sincerely Anne Higginson

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**Q22. Attach your supporting documents (Document 1)** not answered

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**Q23. Attach your supporting documents (Document 2)** not answered

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**Q24. Attach your supporting documents (Document 3)** not answered

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