

From: Gavin Sullivan [mailto:Gavin.Sullivan@gsbd.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 26 March 2010 8:15 AM
To: Avtar Singh
Subject: FW: Submission South-Western Cypress State Forests

To Whom It May Concern,

I Gavin Sullivan managing Director of GS&BD Electrics Pty Ltd would like to voice my strong concerns regarding the possibility of changes to usage of the South-West Cypress State Forests.

I have carried out works at Grants Sawmill at Narrandera from the 1970s through until today. I have always found Grants sawmilling to be fully professional and thoroughly dedicated to the timber industrie both short term and long term.

I have seen them strive to continually improve work practices and work conditions. They have always adopted common sense down to earth values to all of there processes whether it be out in the forests or at the mill. They have always had long term goals and have a full understanding of the need to protect and nurture our forests for continued long term sustainability of the industry they are in.

Grants are major employers both in the Narrandera and Condoblin communities. I have lived in Narrandera my whole life and have seen many jobs disappear from Telstra Approx 140 to 2, Railways 85 to 5, Graincorp 25 to 2 etc, etc.

These job losses have had a terrible impact on the community as population numbers and services have fallen away. In particular our young people have drifted away which makes future prospects for the Narrandera district not so bright.

I as a businessman have tried to offer the best possible range of services to industries in and around Narrandera, at competitive rates. It is very hard and costly to employ and train people in the area with limited industries to support service industries such as ours. The drought & Global Financial Crisis has had devastating effects on many of our customers and in turn we have had devastating effects on our business.

We and a lot of other businesses cannot afford the loss of Grants Sawmill in this area. Unfortunately if they go it will have a domino effect on many others. Services such as ours will be lost to the area and people in the future will have to access similar services from large regional areas such as Albury or Wagga. The additional costs to the proposed new industries would be prohibitive and they would not start in Narrandera, they will go to the bigger inland Cities.

We cannot attract other industries here now and we cannot afford to lose a responsible well managed Eco Friendly company like Grants Sawmill. Let's face it they have been doing what they do well for years and they want to continue to keep doing it responsibly forever.

For our communities sake please consider all our futures and don't shut them out of our future.

If you would like to discuss anything in this submission or anything else feel free to contact me at any time.

Regards

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