

24 September 2009



Redgum Forest Assessment
Natural Resources Commission
GPO Box 4206
SYDNEY NSW 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Submission on the Redgum Forests

We live on the Murray River, and we are writing in the hope that you will listen to the people that will be directly affected by any changes made to the Redgum Forests in this area.

Our Business is River Redgum Furniture Pty Ltd, we employ, 2 hands on working directors, 2 apprentices, 1 fully qualified furniture maker, 1 finisher, 3 people in Sales and office duties and 2 casual employees that come in on a need basis. We are already having trouble sourcing quality timber to fill our existing orders.

The Victoria Labour party decision to change a large percentage of our local State forest into National Parks, have been devastating to this area. The Labour Government has proven to country people that our opinions are of no concern and/or of any value. These are the people that work and 'play' in the forest and know these forests best. Also please remember we are people that want the Redgum Forests around forever and want to protect them just not to make them into National Parks and fire hazards.

Country areas are battling drought as well as the forest, of course the forest are stressed at the moment, but we have been in drought for 15 years. We will get rain again and the forest will be back to their spender. That is the beauty of Redgums they are not only a beautiful tree they are tough too. But we believe the current forest management plan is working and viable for the future of the forest and the industry as a whole.

We have a young family with our 2 boys going to the local primary school, we have seen the numbers at the school decline, as people are moving away from the area to find employment. We can not loss any more industries from the county area or there will be more ghost towns than existing towns.

Country people already believe we are forgotten minority, please do not prove us right yet again and listen to the people that live and work in this very beautiful part of Australia and keep of Forest open for all and forever.

With regards,

Dean & Naomi Attwell