

Forest Assessment

Natural Resources Commission

GPO Box 4206, Sydney NSW 2001

Mr. Mervyn Colville

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Stop logging directive in the Central Murray Region of NSW

I am one of many small business owners in this area gravely concerned about my future should our forest be closed to logging, I manufacture and repair new and existing forest and farm equipment.

I have been involved with the timber industry for approximately 22 years my business relies 95% on the abovementioned tasks with only 5% on work preformed for farmers due to the drought in the past 11 years.

If the Timber industry disappears from this area so will a lot of tradesmen and their skills along with the services they provide leaving, the already struggling, farmers in the area without the necessary businesses to service their equipment.

The wrong decision will force almost all the able bodied workers and their families to relocate to find work or stand in line at Centrelink with the ever growing numbers already facing hardship. Many businesses in this area have already closed their doors due to the drought, Barham small engines, Boyd's service and sales, Shell Service Station Barham, Border Engineering just to name a few, our community cannot afford to also lose its main industry.

My business will NOT survive without the Timber industry I will be forced to sell up and move from my home town, my elderly parents, my daughter and grandchildren, my life. This would be a personal and professional tragedy for many just like me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mervyn Colville', with a yellow highlighter mark on the word 'Colville'.

Merv Colville