About ten per cent of Australia's timber imports are suspect. In Papua New Guinea it is estimated 3 out of 4 logs are felled illegally. In Indonesia illegal logging destroys about three million hectares of forests every year. Illegal logging causes major irreversible damage to the environment and results in the loss of assets and revenue in developing countries of up to US\$23 billion every year.

Petition to the Honourable Speaker and members of the House of Representatives assembled in Parliament:

This petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House the Howard Government's failure to crack down on the importation of illegally logged timber. Your petitioners therefore request the House to call on the Howard Government to:

Build capacity within regional governments to prevent illegal harvesting



Develop and support certification schemes for timber and timber products sold in Australia



Require disclosure at point of sale of species, country of origin and any certification



Identify illegally logged timber and restrict its import into Australia Argue for incentives within the emerging global carbon markets for avoided deforestation and better management of tropical rainforests