



**Uniting Church in Australia**  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

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**Justice and International Mission Unit  
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia**

**Supplementary Submission to  
Inquiry into the Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill 2011  
December 2011**

The Justice and International Mission Unit, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia (the Unit) would like to make a supplementary submission to the inquiry into the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill 2011*.

The Unit would urge great caution in using the current Gibson Guitars action to draw strong conclusions about any problems with the US *Lacey Act*. Attached is an article by the US Department of Justice on the operation of the *Lacey Act* written in July 2011. This article outlines a number of lessons that are likely to be useful in considering the drafting of the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill 2011* and the subsequent development of regulations to implement it. In addition, attached is a letter from US Assistant Attorney General and the US Department of the Interior to the Chairman of the US Congress Committee on Energy and Commerce urging caution in accepting media reports regarding the 24 August raid on the Gibson Guitar facilities in the US.

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