

Submission No: ..... 45 .....

**Response to Parliamentary Australian Forest Inquiry into Challenges and opportunities facing the Australian Forestry Industry.**

In our submission we would like to elaborate on the topic of;

**POTENTIAL ENERGY PRODUCTION FROM THE FORESTRY SECTOR- INCLUDING BIOFUELS, BIOMASS, BIOCHAR, COGENERATION and CARBON SEQUESTRATION**

We are the future generation of rural sawmill owners and currently employ 18 staff at our sawmill with the flow on effect of 126 rural jobs created through harvesting contractors etc. We consider it our moral obligation to operate our business in the most environmentally and truly sustainable manner possible. To achieve this, we consider it imperative that access to timber from our private native forest be maintained and our forests be nurtured and harvested in a genuinely sustainable manner. Also we should attempt to utilise the products of these forests to maximum advantage.

One method we would wish to employ to achieve this would be complete utilisation of harvesting and processing residues for the generation of clean energy. These residues from harvest and mill waste have enormous potential for production of renewable clean energy whether it be gas or liquid fuels.

We consider it a must that future governments support us by implementing the necessary guidelines and regulations to permit this.

I consider it prudent to mention that in this region of NSW (Clarence Valley), there are numerous downstream manufacturers utilising our products, to list a few, native timber kitchen manufacturers, furniture manufacturers, builders, fencing contractors, boat builders, pallet manufacturers, and many many more businesses who directly depend on the reliable supply of native timbers. Without our reliable supply these numerous businesses could not survive.

Yours Sincerely,

Bree and Allen Henson