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Forestry Commission of N.S.W.

Forestry Office
PO Box 388
GRAFTON 2480

Mr Aidan Ricketts
NEPA
C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
149 Keen Street
LISMORE 2480

Your reference:

Our reference: 588 RJW:SO

Telephone: 432022

Fax: 432131

Contact Officer:
Bob Williams

10 August 1992

Dear Mr Ricketts

Please be advised that Mosquito Creek Road Stage II has been approved and construction will follow on from Stage I.

Mosquito Creek Road will provide access for the harvesting of an estimated 14 900 m³ gross of sawlogs and poles from areas outside of the wilderness area; providing an 11.7% return on investment.

In accordance with the Timber Industry (Interim Protection) Act no harvesting will take place inside the nominated wilderness boundary until the Grafton Forests EIS is determined.

Yours faithfully


R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER

Debate over pulp mill is revived

pg 2
15/6/72

By DEBBIE SCHIPP

The pulp mill debate has been resurrected on the North Coast with a call for the timber, pulp and paper industries to be developed.

The call has come from an unexpected quarter — the northern organiser of the ALP, Mr Laurie Brown.

Grafton-based Mr Brown said the industries must be developed if country areas, especially the North Coast, were to contribute positively to the State economy.

He said a new Labor industry development policy adopted at the party's annual conference in Sydney would encourage the development of the timber and primary products-processing industries.

"The timber industry has enormous opportunities to increase the value-added component of the State's output and contribute to our economic growth," Mr Brown said.

When combined with Labor policies to encourage softwood plantations and manage native hardwood forests, the new policy would give the timber industry a clear indication that the Labor Party would support a modern and efficient

timber and timber products industry, Mr Brown said.

Pulp mill opponent Mr Martin Frolich said he did not believe a pulp mill would be endorsed by the community.

He said politicising the issue of timber industry alternatives would not solve the problem.

"There is a real need to look at a legitimate strategy for the timber industry and I hope that we can get some sort of structure to do that in place," Mr Frolich said.

"But I don't think this is helped by politicising the issue.

"The conservation movement and the timber industry have indicated a willingness to address industry alternatives, and that will include looking at new pulp mill technology, but at the moment a pulp mill is just not on," said Mr Frolich.

The Member for Clarence, Mr Ian Causley, said Labor's 'sudden about face' on a pulp mill for the North Coast was 'designed only to win votes'.

"Mr Brown and Member for Page Harry Woods exploited the issue unmercifully during the last Federal election, and now they've changed their minds," Mr Causley said.

Forest watch

The North-East Forest Alliance has set up a forest watch in the Bindery wilderness area of Dalmorton State Forest, west of Grafton, because the Forestry Commission intended to build a road on part of the area assessed as wilderness by the National Parks.

Forestry Commission of N.S.W.

Forestry Office
PO Box 368
GRAFTON 2460

22/7/92

Mr Aiden Ricketts
C/- Big Scrub Environment Centre
LISMORE NSW 2480

Your reference: 588 R Williams:SO
Our reference:
Telephone: 432022
Fax: 432131
22.06.1992

Dear Aiden

At our meeting last Tuesday you might recall that I indicated that, subject to confirmation from higher authority, I would be prepared to advise you when Mosquito Creek Road had been approved and provide two weeks notice of the commencement of construction. Your contingent indicated that you would prefer a months notice.

Please take this letter as your official advice that the Commission will advise you when Mosquito Creek Road is approved and will provide a minimum of two (2) weeks notice of the commencement of construction.

Please find attached the Roding Economics for the Mosquito Creek Section Dalmorton State Forest.

Yours faithfully


R J Williams
DISTRICT FORESTER



BRUSH BOX
Lophoceros variatus

N.E.F.A.

NORTH EAST FOREST ALLIANCE

SYDNEY: NSW Environment Centre, 39 George St, The Rocks, 2000. Ph. 02 2474 206, Fx 02 2475 945

LISMORE: The Big Scrub Environment Centre Inc, 149 Keen St, Lismore, 2480. Ph 066 213 278, Fx 066 222 676

MEDIA Release JUNE 12 1992

Confrontation likely over wilderness roading plan.

The Forestry Commission is building a road into a previously unlogged section of the Bindery Wilderness area in the Dalmorton state forest west of Grafton, according to Mr Aidan Ricketts, a spokesperson for the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA).

The area was nominated as a wilderness area in 1988 and an Assessment Report has now been prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), which identifies the areas which qualify as wilderness. Some areas which were part of the nominated area have been excluded in the Assessment because recent logging has already destroyed their wilderness qualities.

The Forestry Commission is now intending to push a road further into the wilderness area specifically for the purposes of logging the area, yet logging in the area cannot lawfully take place without completion of an EIS, which is not due until July 1993. Clearly the Commission's haste to build the road now is a cynical attempt to pre-empt the decision making processes under the Wilderness Act, by destroying the area's wilderness values before the area can be protected, Mr Ricketts said.

The road construction will be at great expense to the public and the Forestry Commission can offer no satisfactory reason for the hasty timing of the operation.

The North East Forest Alliance will not accept the Forestry Commission's approach of "destroy now, assess later", and is prepared to take direct action in the forest to prevent the destruction of this important wilderness area, Mr Ricketts said.

The area contains important habitat for a large number of endangered species and contains some of the last old growth Spotted Gum stands on the North Coast.

----For more information contact Mr Aidan Ricketts 066 213 278.