



From: POV eSubmission Form <ecosystems@parliament.vic.gov.au>
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Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Categories: Submissions

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Ms Sophia Dunn



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I am writing to express my deep concern about the destruction of Victoria’s native forests, through clear-felling and other destructive logging practices, and in the devastating fires of 2014 and again in 2019-20. The Dan Andrews government has shown it can rapidly mobilise change in Victoria through its coronavirus response, for the greater good of all its citizens. East Gippsland alone has lost seventy per cent of its forests during the 2019-20 fires. Rivers that once contained many endangered species and clear-running water have been reduced to almost nothing. Forests that survived the last Ice Age and contain irreplaceable biodiversity, have been completely destroyed.

The international scientific community has long called for a rapid response to climate change. Australia’s ecosystems are already vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Now, the catastrophic fires of 2019-20 have demonstrated that the effects of climate change are already taking hold, with far wider reaching implications for the health of Victorians and the survival of the economy than coronavirus.

The logging industry is clearly unsustainable and employs a small number of people. If Dan Andrews can demand that Victorians stay at home for the greater good of their and fellow Victorians’ health and safety, he has the ability to call for an immediate end to native forest logging, and put much needed funds into helping protect the little that is left of our native forests, for the survival of people living here now and into the future.

Before coronavirus restrictions took hold, my nineteen year old daughter, who was born in East Gippsland, went back to Goongerah. On asking her how it was, she replied, “It scared me. It reminded me we’re going to die from climate change”.

This is the reality that young people in our country are facing.

There is no time to waste, we need the Victorian government to act now.

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File1:

File2:

File3: