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From: Amy Kidd [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 4:53 PM
To: ecosystems
Subject: My submission to the Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Vic

Categories: Submissions

Dear Committee Members,

Please accept this as my submission to the Victorian Parliament's Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline. I am happy for my submission to be made public.

I am very concerned about the state of the environment and wildlife in Victoria.

Our unique nature is part of what makes our state so special. But over the years, our natural spaces have faced destruction and neglect. Our native forests continue to be logged, destroying native plants and homes for native animals. And our government does little to tackle climate change, even though our environment is suffering from worsening climate impacts year on year. Still, our state is predominately powered by polluting coal power, when renewable energy alternatives exist - and can create long-term jobs while safeguarding our future.

I would like to see the following things addressed by this Inquiry:

1. End native forest logging in Victoria - Victoria is the most cleared state in Australia. We need to protect the native forest we have left as vital habitat for our native species - including our threatened species who are on the brink of extinction - as well as for beautiful natural spaces for Victorians and tourists to enjoy.
2. Strong climate action - we need to stop burning coal and gas and invest in renewable energy. The impacts of climate change are making it harder and harder for wildlife and ecosystems to survive. The 2020 bushfires are a recent example of the devastation that worsening weather events can have. There is no plan to solve the decline of ecosystems without a plan to tackle climate change.
3. Investment in restoring nature and ecosystems - we desperately need to increase funding to restore our natural spaces and ecosystems in this state. This should be a top priority for the state government. This too could create long-term jobs.
4. First Nations led environmental solutions - we have the benefit of sharing a country with people who have thousands upon thousands of years of knowledge of how to care for this country. First Nations people should be the ones to lead the recovery from the environmental destruction that has been caused since colonisation.
5. Humane management of introduced species - I understand that introduced species are a threat to some of our native threatened species. In these instances, humane methods of relocation or sterilisation of introduced animals should be used. Culling and poisoning is cruel and unnecessary.

I urge you to recommend strong action to protect and restore Victoria's environment as a result of this Inquiry.

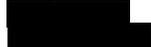
Thank you.

Warm regards,

Amy Kidd
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Amy Kidd (she/her)



I acknowledge that I live and work on Aboriginal land and pay my respects to Elders past and present.