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Sent: Friday, 24 August 2012 4:18 PM
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Subject: Review of Native Vegetation Regulations 2005

To the Office of Environment and Heritage NSW Government

Review of Native Vegetation Regulations 2005

I write in support of the existing regulations and in support of strengthening these regulations to protect native vegetation.

In the 200+ years since settlement, the land of NSW has been subject to massive clearing, primarily for agricultural purposes. Agriculture is of course essential to our way of life. In the pursuit of agriculture, vast swathes of native forests and vegetation have been removed with little subsequent regeneration occurring. In the Central West some 80-90% of the land has been cleared.

What justification is there for further clearing? Perhaps a review of land use and agricultural practices could ensure that land already cleared remains productive?

It seems to me there is a need to strike a balance between clearing and retention of existing native forests and vegetation. If we continue to clear, as has been done over the last 200 years, then, in another 200 years, there will be no native forests or vegetation left, and no habitat for native fauna.

Further, it seems to be forgotten in debate of this issue, that we are part of the ecosystem, dependent on the environment for our very life. As we all know, if we destroy it, we destroy ourselves.

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