From: <u>heatheringram</u>

To: POLICY Conservation & Development Policy Branch Mailbox

Subject: Biodiversity Review submission

Date: Thursday, 4 September 2014 11:03:47 AM

Dear Biodiversity Review Panel,

I am writing to comment on the Issues Paper drafted by the Biodiversity Review Panel.

It is time the NSW Government showed its electors that it does care about our environment and is willing to enact legislation that will ensure our wildlife, bushland and rivers survive into the future.

Since gaining office in 2011, there has been a continuous attack on environmental/conservation laws as well as the

Environment Defenders Office thereby ensuring safeguards are weakened or lost. Without the EDO, community groups have or will lose the legal expertise to fight some of the more outrageous "development" plans.

Why don't the various government departments entrusted with the protection of our bushland ever seem to stand up to vested interests, why do we have a National Parks & Wildlife Service, Forestry, et al, when it's left to local communities to try and forestall wholesale destruction of countryside and towns?

I hope your review will be in favour of a safe environmental future for New South Wales because right now the laws in existence are the bulwark between a healthy biodiversity and nothing.

Unless the Government acts now to reinforce already available legislation to protect biodiversity and our wonderful bushland and the magical wildlife dependent on it, the prospects for survival of whole species are dim.

Yours sincerely, Heather Ingram