



## South East Region Conservation Alliance Inc.

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Dr Michael Holland MP

122 Carp Street

Bega NSW 2550

Dear Dr Holland

South East Region Conservation Alliance (SERCA) members are concerned that the Labor Party may be moving to adopt national policy that will enable further damage to Australia's ecosystems and continue native forest logging.

You would be aware that the ALP is currently exhibiting [the consultation draft of its National Platform](#) for internal ALP submissions by 25 May. The Draft Platform will be finalised by the [National Policy Forum](#) in June and released to delegates ahead of the ALP National Conference to be held 23-25 July at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

Within the 113-page document in *Chapter 3: Safeguarding Our Climate And Environment And Powering Australia's Future* (clause 62) there is proposed endorsement of the [Timber Fibre Strategy](#), which would ensure the continuation of native forest logging. It was developed as a logging industry document with inadequate consideration of ecological principles.

SERCA is asking you to:

- Support an end to native forest logging and promote alternatives to it, with timber and forestry industries restructured away from native forests;
- Specifically reject the Timber Fibre Strategy proposal to overturn well established existing Government policy on native forest biomass burning for energy and logging in National Parks;
- Recognise that it is not usual practice to include industry advisory documents, such as the Timber Fibre Strategy, in the ALP national platform. It should be removed as a matter of procedure.
- We also note that Labor Environment Action Network (LEAN) is proposing an alternative motion (see Attachment) which would protect our forests and move to 100% plantation timber and urge you to support this.

Opinion polls consistently show that an end to native forest logging is supported by a strong majority of voters, both nationally and within our local electorates. We would appreciate your support to ensure that our precious ecosystems are protected and that native forest logging is not enshrined in the Labor Party policy.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

Harriett Swift

Convener

21 May 2026

## Attachment

NSW Labor Lean Motion for 4 July 2026 NSW Labor Conference

### **LEAN NSW MOTION 1. Protecting our Forests - Moving to 100% Plantation Timber**

#### **Preamble**

Our state's native forests are among the most biologically rich and carbon dense ecosystems on earth, supporting hundreds of endangered species including the Koala, Greater Glider and Swift Parrot. Continued logging degrades and fragments these species' most important habitat, pushing them ever closer to extinction.

For over 20 years logging operations in NSW have been exempt from Federal environment laws. This changed with the Federal environment reforms at the end of 2025 and the exemption will end by July 2027 when stronger protections for endangered species will need to be in place.

Native forest logging is a financial burden to NSW taxpayers. Since 2020 the hardwood division of Forestry Corporation has lost over \$105m. This is despite receiving over \$250m of other state subsidies, grants and payments during the same period.

Plantation forestry already supplies over 94% of NSW's wood products, a transition to 100% plantation supply and protection of critical native forests is both feasible and practical.

Native forests are also crucial carbon stores, their protection and restoration is essential to meeting our legislated net zero commitments. Valuing our forests for their carbon could generate over \$1.5bn in state revenue, which can be reinvested back into land management, long-term local employment and new opportunities to empower Aboriginal communities to care for country.

#### **Motion**

That this Branch / Conference:

1. Congratulate Premier Minns on the creation of the Great Koala National Park, which will protect over 12,000 koalas and become a landmark tourism destination on the North Coast.
2. Note that over 170 Labor branches in NSW have passed motions calling on Labor to protect native forests and move to 100% plantation timber supply.
3. Note that Victoria and Western Australia have ended native forest logging, and that there is a sustainable future for the industry in plantation forestry, which already supplies over 94% of NSW's wood products.
4. Calls on the NSW Government to urgently exit native forest logging and transition to 100% plantation timber.
5. Calls on the NSW Government to fund a comprehensive transition plan for impacted workers, as well as investing in plantation expansion and manufactured timber.