

MediaRelease



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GREEN GAMES HAVE BEGUN

The Commonwealth Games might have finished in Victoria but the Green Games have just begun as radical environment Groups in East Gippsland stage illegal protests and wind up the hype through the media in the lead up to the Victorian State Election in November this year, claimed Timber Communities Australia (TCA) today.

“It’s the same old same old. Every time we face a State or Federal election the anti-logging groups turn up the heat with illegal protests, make misleading comments in the media and fight to feed their insatiable appetites”, said Mrs Kersten Gentle, Victorian State Manager of TCA

“Last week, Ms Moffat a representative from the Victorian Environment Assessment Council (VEAC) Community Reference Group made misleading comments about the VEAC Goolengook Inquiry in what could only be seen as an attempt to pre-empt the outcome”, Mrs Gentle said.

“Contrary to what Ms Moffat claims, the VEAC inquiry **will not** be addressing Old Growth harvesting outside the Goolengook block. The VEAC inquiry **will not** be creating a model for the protection of old growth forests in Victoria and the VEAC inquiry has clearly stated that **there will be no** net deterioration in timber production capacity”.

“Comments made by Ms Moffat just shows that these so called environmentalist will never been satisfied until they have all the forests locked in to National Parks and communities in East Gippsland decimated due to the loss of its native forest industries”, said Mrs Gentle

“The VEAC Goolengook inquiry has been set up to investigate whether all or parts of the Goolengook area should be added to a National Park. You would think environmentalists would be happy with this but yet again they want more”.

“TCA calls on the State Government to allow VEAC to run its course as an independent organisation undertaking an investigation based on science not on green preferences and election promises. VEAC is due to complete the Goolengook Inquiry in July 2007, eight months after the State Election. Lets hope Ms Moffat and her anti-logging friends stay in the process and have their say and not walk away like spoilt children, like they did during the Regional Forest Agreement Process only to be unsatisfied with the outcome”, concluded Mrs Gentle.

For more information please call:

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