

# ***MEDIA RELEASE***



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## **“Greens Lies Exposed – Yet Again”**

Timber Communities Australia (TCA), the national grassroots community organisation, calls on the organisers of last years forest blockade in Wandella State Forest, west of Cobargo, to justify their protest action; a protest that ran for over 4 months in late 2005. TCA demands that the protest organisers explain themselves to the community and to provide justification on why actions against a small local employer, operating under a Government licence, were ever undertaken.

Peter Lezaich, the NSW Manager for Timber Communities Australia, stated today that “there has been ample time for the organisers of the failed blockade to explain the real reasons for their action”.

“If it is good enough to approach a local contractor, of 40 years standing, and tell him to his face that “I will break you”, then it is good enough to tell that person’s community what your real motives were” said Mr Lezaich.

Extreme Green organisers had claimed that the operations in Wandella State Forest were totally woodchip driven, yet actual production records reveal that 84% of the harvest was sold to local sawmills. “Why have their totally misleading public claims not been corrected?” asked Mr Lezaich.

These environmental extremists, masquerading as conservationists, have had ample opportunity to produce evidence in support of their claims that millions of animals are killed in the local region as a result of forest harvesting.

“Despite the fact that these people were present day and night, for **over three thousand hours**, in what they described as a high conservation value forest, so far not one single shred of physical evidence has emerged to support their claim that harvesting is or has been harmful to our flora and fauna.” said Peter Lezaich

It was no wonder that the contractor was successful in a Supreme Court action against the blockade and its extremist green organisers, given the fact that the supposed basis for the blockade lacked any credibility what-so-ever.

It is clear that the protest action was not a peaceful action, invading someone’s workplace, harassing the local community, blockading the local school bus, forcing workers to require a police escort into and out of their workplace is not a peaceful protest.

“This sort of action is designed and planned very carefully by these green extremists to cause financial hardship to local family businesses and to drive them out of business” said Peter Lezaich.

The community deserves full and open explanations for those actions that targeted members of the local community, both personally and financially. “This was not a peaceful protest – it was aimed at destroying ordinary everyday people” he said.

Ends

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