

MEDIA RELEASE



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“NSW Government forces town closure”

Timber Communities Australia (TCA), the national grassroots community organisation, today asks how will Morris Iemma, in his capacity as Premier and Minister for State Development, save the small rural community of Bostobrick?

This government's mismanagement of New South Wales' forest resources has resulted in another 47 job losses in rural NSW, bringing the total to over 2000 since the first Regional Forest Agreement was signed. That's another small rural community sacrificed for inner city green preferences!

A series of poor decisions over the last ten years, by the Carr/Iemma government, have resulted in the loss of publicly owned and managed production forest in northern NSW. The resulting shortfalls in both supply and specification have resulted in a circumstance where major timber industry employer Boral has had to install new and advanced technology, at a cost of over 24 million dollars, to make use of the resource forced upon them by the NSW government.

TCA NSW State Manager, Peter Lezaich today said that “the NSW Governments decision to do away with publicly owned production forest in northern NSW has forced mill owners to upgrade some mills at the expense of others, resulting in significant job losses and the demise another small rural community.

The NSW Governments city centric focus has delivered a bleak future to the small northern NSW town of Bostobrick and the families that live there.

“Residents have the choice between staying put and watching their town decay around them or facing the trauma of relocating their families and starting afresh” said peter Lezaich.

“TCA will work with the union and the company to ensure that all affected families have a positive future in spite of this governments best efforts to deny them one” said Peter Lezaich today.

Ends

Peter Lezaich 0427 211 406