

MEDIA RELEASE



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TAMMY LOBATO – ANTI ALP & ANTI TIMBER WORKERS

Sixteen ladies representing timber families and communities protested and chained themselves around ALP Member for Gembrook Tammy Lobatos car today in Yarra Junction after Ms Lobato came out against Victoria's sustainable timber industry.

“It is hard to believe that an ALP member can come out against their own parties policy and against an industry she has claimed to support since gaining power in 2002”, said Mrs Kersten Gentle, National Coordinator of national grassroots community organisation, Timber Communities Australia.

“Not only has Ms Lobato lied to timber workers about her so called support but she has ignored the science and ignored the rights of timber workers to go about their lawful daily work and earn money for their families”, Mrs Gentle said.

“The women today wanted to ensure Ms Lobato understood she had lost their confidence and trust in her as a local member and for her to experience first hand the frustration at not being able to work due to protesters locking on to personal equipment”, said Mrs Gentle.

“Our family has made many sacrifices like hundreds of other industry families to assist the States fire fighting efforts, yet Ms Lobato, a woman who is meant to represent my family is ignoring my husbands right to earn an honest living”, said Mrs Nicki Green whose family has been victimised by anti-logging protesters.

“Instead of coming out and condemning illegal forest protesters Ms Lobato decided to attack our family and our industry instead adding fuel to the fire for radical zealots who think they are representing the community when they illegally stop our business from working”, said Mrs Green.

“If Ms Lobato wants to turn her back on workers and the ALP then perhaps the ALP should find a true supporter of workers to stand for the seat of Gembrook at the next State Election due in 2010”, said Mrs Gentle.

“Given Ms Lobato's recent attacks on her party on GM and now on forestry Ms Lobato would be better off standing for the Australian Greens”, concluded Mrs Gentle.

For further information call:

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