

MEDIA RELEASE



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15th October, 2008

Greens must get over their Forestry Dilemma

Timber Communities of Australia CEO Jim Adams said today that instead of inventing pseudo science like the recent partially green funded work coming out through the ANU in a desperate attempt to sustain an in-defendable position in oppositions to Australia's world class and sustainable forestry sector, Australian green groups should embrace Australia's sustainable forest industry and work with it to deliver the potential environmental, social and economic benefits that it can deliver for the Australian and International community.

In 2007 the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported:

“In the long term, a sustainable forest management strategy aimed at maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an annual sustained yield of timber, fiber or energy from the forest, will generate the largest sustained mitigation benefit.

(Chapter 9 page 543)

Understandably for Australian green groups who for the past 30 years have built their political relevance on “saving the forests by locking them up” this did not come as good news.

To date their response has been to ignore this finding and to try and produce pseudo scientific reports and opinions masquerading of scientific work to try and present an alternate view, “this is not a battle about the environment or the forests, this is about the greens desperately trying to hold their ground and their political relevance”, TCA CEO Jim Adams said today.

“The ANU should be very careful about allowing itself to be implicated in these pieces of work the scientific rigor and independence of which are at best dubious”.

“If the greens are really concerned about the environment they should get over this dilemma and embrace the finding of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel and work closely with Australia's world class and sustainable forest industries to look for ways to maximize the benefits to the Australian and International communities identified by the Panel”. Mr. Adams went on to say.

If they do this and address themselves to the many far more pressing environmental issues current both in Australia and internationally, they may even find that they have a real political relevance Mr. Adams concluded.

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