

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: STOPPING LOGGING MUST COME FIRST
MEGAN SHERWOOD BDN 29.11.11

The irony about contentious native forest logging is that, on the one hand the community praises the efforts of local people who want to protect Australia's forests and on the other, the chipmill's forestry manager publicly insults those who represent them.

As I see it, while we continue to sell the SE forests of NSW to Japan cheaply for woodchips, we are getting further and further into carbon and environmental debt. We remain highly conscious that beauty needs to be cherished, not destroyed. Commencing a forest regeneration program seems useless until the logging stops. Otherwise it would be like trying to bail out the Titanic with a bucket. If the chipmill's forestry manager won't "work with [his] sworn enemies" on "revegetation of a portion of the original core koala habitat with ... forest red gum", why does he invite specific 'enemies' to help him do this and why not employ his own staff and his contractors for this activity? 'Reverse logging' would be a lucrative and patriotic profession.