

MEDIA RELEASE: Greens Senator Lee Rhiannon speaks at Forests and Climate Forum, Canberra Saturday 13 August 2011

Australian Greens Senator Lee Rhiannon and forests spokesperson speaks on climate change and protection of native forests, on a panel with Labor's Mike Kelly – MP for Eden Monaro and Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

National Forests and Climate Forum, Canberra.
3.50pm, Saturday 13 August 2011. Conference from 9am to 5pm.
John Curtin School of Medical Research, 131 Garran Road, ANU.

Australian Greens Senator for NSW and forests spokesperson Lee Rhiannon said:

“The ongoing logging and wood chipping of Australia’s native forests is a disgrace. Protecting and preserving these wild places is imperative to combat climate change and increase biodiversity.

“The carbon price agreement has put an end to the bankrupt proposal for Eden chipmill to build a power station that burns native forest wood to generate electricity.

“The Carbon Farming Initiative will also provide an economic incentive for farmers and landholders to change practices, like giving up logging and farming land for protecting and expanding remnant forest.

“The package can be a springboard to properly value and conserve native forests and reap the economic and environmental benefits of keeping native trees in the soil.

“The evidence is now in that native forests provide a significant way of storing and soaking up carbon and reducing our global emissions.

“For that reason alone, it’s time native wood-chipping was relegated to the dust bin of history,” Senator Rhiannon said.

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