

Letter to MP Hon Greg Hunt from Bronte Somerset 19th June 2010
RE: Logging Trucks Through Tiny Quaama Village

Dear Greg,

Forests NSW posted a letter dated 28th May on Quaama General Store noticeboard advising of logging of Murrah State Forest, compartments 2032, 2035, 2051 & 2052 with maps.

This is equal to 2 day's notice as logging is scheduled to commence in June for 4 to 6 months. Richard and I drove up to the Murrah State Forest yesterday. We couldn't help notice the spindly trees, with little or no undergrowth where logging had previously taken place, denuded of topsoil which has apparently made its way into Cuttagee as silt. The locals say the forests there have been logged to death. The catchment of Cuttagee Lake will be badly effected again. This forest has been logged, burnt and poisoned several times over by FNSW in their relentless and rapacious logging for woodchips. FNSW are making loss and we, the taxpayers, are paying for this unprofitable industry.

Timber haulage will be through single lane Field Bucket's Way, down Bermagueue Street a few meters from residents' front doors, the General Store and heritage buildings, park, past the school and down to the highway past more residences. If they took another route the trucks would going through a residential only street (which I live on), with narrow streets, and the trucks would pass about 30 meters from our front door. FNSW said there will be an average of 8 trucks per day in and 8 out, plus very heavy logging machinery. Kevin Petty FNSW told me it was my fault for buying a house on a haulage route - how was I to know?

Quaama is a tiny 'doll house' village. What we have is worth preserving.

Apart from destruction of the forests and loss of habitat, I surmise:

- Structural damage to heritage buildings and homes
- Road damage
- Loss of value to real estate
- Invasion of our peace and walking spaces- there is only one road in and one road out and they are residential.

Consultation: as received from Julia Clark, FNSW Eden 1300880548.

1. FNSW door-knocked a few residents in Field Bucket's Way because they were on the haulage route. A representative told me they have not consulted with any other residents in the residential streets to be affected.
2. FNSW have not contacted wildlife groups, yet yellow-bellied gliders, sooty owls and Chef Hat correas live in the area to be logged and black cockatoos and koalas have been sighted nearby.
3. Consultation made with the Indigenous people oppose the logging.

As members of the local community, we have had no correspondence from FNSW advising of this until we saw the letter on the General Store notice board. I feel this activity is a breach of my civil liberties. I am very upset and it is all affecting my health. You just can't image the shock of moving into the area and seeing what is

happening. It shows an atrocious disregard for this country and the villagers of tiny Quaama. Having logging trucks churning through the village streets will be like having a monster in the 'doll's house'.

Kind regards,
Bronte

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Bronte Somerset,
bjsomerset@gmail.com
H: 61 (02) 6493 8112