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BREAKING NEWS NSW, Australia - Logging Equipment Seized by Proesters in Koala Woodchip Protest

After police moved this morning on 30 - 50 locals protesting the logging at Mumbulla State Forest in South East NSW near Bega., protesters have seized logging equipment in self defence and to protect the endangered koala colony

Protesters are in considerable danger. Lisa Stone of South East Forest Rescue has reported that loggers are felling trees within 100 metres of protesters. This is a basic safety breach.

South East Forest Rescue member Tony Whan adds that some equipment is blocked and held by protesters. He vows that work will not start regardless of the personal cost.

Further forestry breaches have been reported to the NSW Department of Environment by protesters today. These include the failure to mark and reserve habitat trees and 'recruitment' trees. State Forests now has a litany of environmental regulation failures in this amazing last refuge of koalas on the south coast of NSW.

"The community has boiled over with anger and protest at its unheeded calls to protect the forests. Not only is woodchipping going ahead in unbelievably sensitive areas like this koala colony but the NSW Government with help from the Australian Federal Government is about to approve a woodchip burning power station at the Eden Woodchip Mill. This will mean the inevitable destruction and death of not only the last koalas but also most of the extraordinary wildlife in these forests including giant owls, amazing gliding possums and micro bats that eat their own weight in insects every night.

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