



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Inquiry: Inquiry into ecosystem decline in Victoria

Hearing Date: 17 June 2021

Questions taken on notice

Directed to: Deb Kerr, Victorian Forest Products Association

1. Dr RATNAM Page no. 37

Question asked.

[specific volumes of native timber] So are you able to tell us how much of forest and wood that is logged is exported? How much is used for the construction industry?....if you have got any other figures to contrast that about what is used for which industry and how much is exported?

Response:

ABARES provides industry data, with the latest data sets available [Australian forest and wood products statistics - Department of Agriculture](#) and [data table](#).

In 2019, Victoria produced 1,078,000 m³ of native hardwood worth \$96M. Native hardwood is not normally used for housing construction; however, it is used for window frames, stairs, floors, and value-added processed and engineered wood products. ABARES export data does not provide Victorian specific export volumes and values and nor does it specify native hardwood. Woodchips derived from plantation blue gum, while pulp and paper is sourced from native and plantation supplies unable to be used for higher valued uses (see the wood flow diagram below).

2. Dr RATNAM Page no. 38

Question asked.

[that the majority of native timber is not exported] provide the data to substantiate that?

Response:

See above response.

3. Dr RATNAM Page no. 38

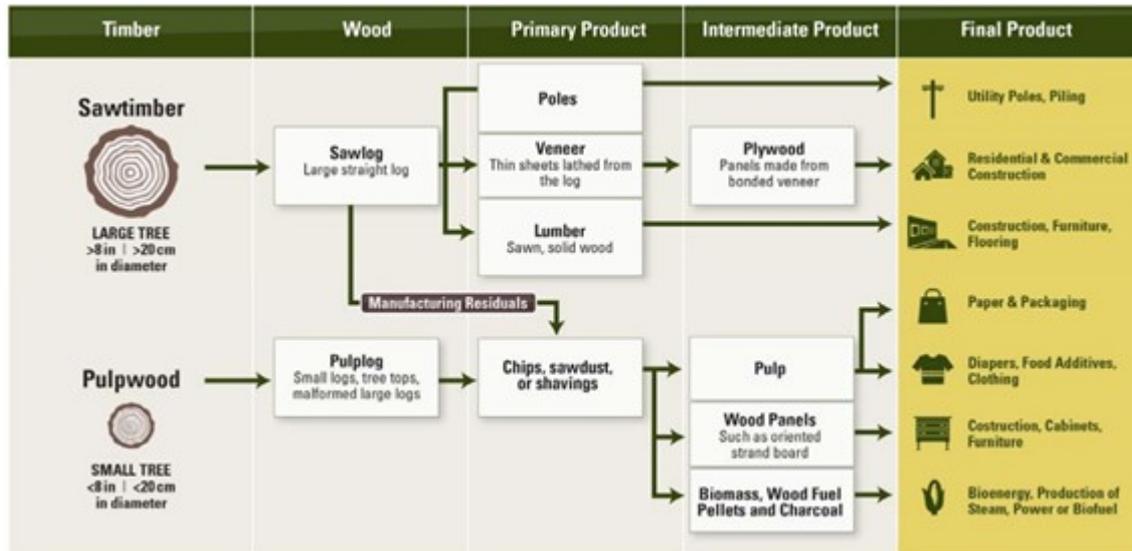
Question asked (as said by yourself):

A diagram of the wood flows for plantation of native forestry.

Response:



The following diagram is sourced from North America but is the same construct for Australian forest products. Whether the wood supply is native or plantation, there are two streams of wood: saw logs and pulp logs.



4. Mrs McARTHUR Page no. 38

Question asked.

as we have reduced the amount of areas that the timber industry can log native hardwood timber, has the importation of timber increased? Is there a direct relation between the reduction in coupes able to be logged and the importation levels?

Response:

Please refer to the ABARES report, with the link provided in Q1 above for import graphs. Correlations between the reduction in native forestry coupes and import volumes have not been undertaken.