



The Hon Mark Furner MP  
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries  
and Minister for Rural Communities

Our ref: CTS 19503/23  
Your ref: A1166412

13 November 2023

1 William Street Brisbane 4000  
GPO Box 46 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
**Telephone +61 7 3719 7420**  
**Email** agriculture@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 13 October 2023 regarding Petition Number 3959-23 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly concerning native timber harvesting at Deongwar State Forest.

Selective native timber harvesting operations in Queensland's State forests must be undertaken in accordance with a wide range of due diligence and compliance requirements, including meeting the *Code of practice for native forest timber production on Queensland's state forest estate 2020* (the Code). The Code is administered and overseen by the Department of Environment and Science.

The Code contains specific protection measures for hollow-dependant fauna, including standard requirements for the retention of habitat and recruitment trees. These requirements reflect the recommendations of the Habitat Tree Technical Advisory Group outlined in the *Managing Habitat Trees in Queensland Forests* report (Lamb et al. 1998).

Under the Native Timber Action Plan, the Queensland Government has committed to ending native timber harvesting in state forests in the South East Queensland Regional Plan area by 31 December 2024, including the Deongwar State Forest.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M. Furner'.

**MARK FURNER MP**  
**Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and**  
**Minister for Rural Communities**