

The Legislative Council Committee

Mirragong Pty Ltd

20/1/2013

Dear Committee,

Mirragong Pty Ltd is a family owned business that has been operating in Longford for the past twenty years. We purchase timber from different sawmills as green board material, rack the timber ,air dry , recondition and Kiln dry the timber mainly for the flooring market.

We employ seven people directly with in our business and have invested a lot of money into purchasing a Kiln, reconditioner , racking bays, racking sticks and setting up our yard.

Our current timber stock over the past four years has fallen from 2500m³ to 580m³ which has reduced our income. This has been effected by the forest agreement and the ability for the sawmills to sell their residue and to get the quality of saw log to be able to maintain the recovery and be profitable.

By locking up more reserves this will lower the grade of saw log to the industry and we are not looking to the future where we have the opportunity to grow as a business and as an Industry.

We were purchasing 200m³ of sawn timber a month from small sawmills and this has been reduced to 65m³ per month with the reduction of log supply and quality.

We currently supply Oakdale Industries with 98% of our timber and have had to drop our other markets off due to the lack of resource.

If the forest is to go into reserve I do not believe that Mirragong has a future and we will be forced to close our business and most of the small sawmills will do the same. I would like to see the Industry grow and expand our markets. You have the opportunity to help build our industry and bring investment back into Tasmania

Josh Holyman

Manager

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