

Minister for Primary Industries and Water  
Minister for Energy  
Minister for Resources  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs


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10 DEC 2019

Hon Ruth Forrest  
Chair  
Legislative Council – Government Business Scrutiny Committee 'A'  
Parliament House  
HOBART TAS 7000

By email: [julie.thompson@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:julie.thompson@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Dear Ms  Forrest

### SUSTAINABLE TIMBER TASMANIA

Thank you for your letter of 5 December 2019 seeking additional information following my appearance before Government Business Scrutiny Committee 'A' on Thursday 5 December 2019.

Please find the responses to the questions as follows:

1. Please provide the data for lost time incidents over the last 5 years.

Sustainable Timber Tasmania / Forestry Tasmania staff:

Financial Year	Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate	Number of Lost Time Incidents
2014/15	19.61	10
2015/16	2.41	1
2016/17	8.72	3
2017/18	3.65	1
2018/19	3.69	1

## Harvest and Transport contractors:

Financial Year	Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate	Number of Lost Time Incidents
2014/15	11.84	10
2015/16	8.20	7
2016/17	15.61	12
2017/18	14.59	9
2018/19	27.39	16

Note: Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate =  $1,000,000 \times \text{Number of Lost Time Injuries} / \text{Hours for the Rolling Year}$ .

### 2. Why is there a need for Australian Standards and what are the differences?

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) has set out 10 FSC Principles and Criteria (P&C) as global requirements for achieving FSC forest management certification. However, any international standard for forest management needs to be adapted at the regional or national level to reflect the diverse legal, social and geographical conditions of forests in different parts of the world.

Chamber-balanced standard development groups (SDG) adapt the International Generic Indicators developed by FSC International to reflect the diverse legal, social and geographical conditions of forests in different parts of the world. The resulting adjustment is incorporated into a National Forest Stewardship Standard.

This is especially true for Australia, due to our unique native species, Indigenous rights context, and other high conservation values associated with Australian forests.

The Australian standard aims to capture the essence of feedback from key stakeholders on a wide range of forest management aspects. For example, management of high conservation value areas, sacred sites, and Indigenous, workers and local community rights, as well as making sure that the community's need for products and sustainable employment is met.

#### The standard development group

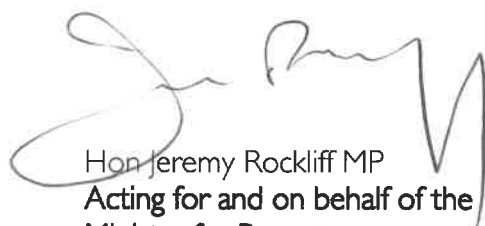
The national forest stewardship standard was developed by a group of 9 elected members representing an equal balance of environmental, social, and economic interests. They formed a standard development group (SDG).

Over five years the group developed 7 drafts and carried out extensive consultation with stakeholders representing environmental concerns, Indigenous peoples' rights, workers rights, local communities, and industry.

The new standard achieved majority support by members of the standard development group.

Following majority approval the standard was reviewed by FSC International, and finally approved for use from February 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Rockliff', is written over the printed name and title.

Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP  
Acting for and on behalf of the  
Minister for Resources