



Legislative Council

# MEDIA RELEASE

9 March 2011

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## **INQUIRY POSSIBLE ON PROPOSED NATIVE FOREST BAN**

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A Legislative Council Committee inquiry may be established to examine the impact of the proposed lock-up of all Tasmania's native timber resources.

Independent Member for Western Tiers Greg Hall MLC said today there was widespread community concern over the impact of the proposed cessation of the management and harvesting of Tasmania's public native forests.

'In light of this growing community concern about the future of Tasmania's public native forests, it is my intention to raise this matter with one of the newly-formed Legislative Council Government Administration Committees for its consideration,' Mr Hall said.

'Depending on the outcome of the long-awaited report by Bill Kelty, which is due to be released any day now, the Committee may determine that there is need for a full investigation of the impact of the proposed ending of the management and harvesting of our public native forests.

'Many members of the community, both within my electorate and in surrounding areas, continue to contact me about their concerns that the flow-on economic consequences of ending native forest harvesting could have devastating effects on regional communities,' he said.

'I hope that Mr Kelty has taken these issues into account, but depending on what he has to say, there may be a need for a full examination of the impacts.'

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**FURTHER INFORMATION: Greg Hall MLC on 0418 132 997**