

Ref: OBPR ID 43974

Mr Jason Lange
Executive Director
Office of Best Practice Regulation
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
1 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600
Email: helpdesk-OBPR@pmc.gov.au

Dear Mr Lange

REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT – SUNSETTING REVIEW OF THE ILLEGAL LOGGING PROHIBITION REGULATION 2012 – SECOND PASS FINAL ASSESSMENT

I am writing to submit the revised Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) on the Sunsetting Review of the Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulation 2012 to the Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) for a formal second pass final assessment.

The RIS describes three options developed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to address challenges with Australia's illegal logging laws and minimise compliance costs for the regulated community.

The recommended option proposes seven potential reforms to ensure the Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulation 2012 does not impose unnecessary compliance costs on regulated businesses and individuals. It will provide a net reduction in regulatory burden of \$2.8 million per annum to the regulated community in Australia, while maintaining the ability of laws to effectively combat illegal logging and associated trade.

I wish to thank you and colleagues in the OBPR for your assistance and constructive feedback following our earlier submission of the RIS for a first pass assessment. I am satisfied that the revised RIS addresses issues identified in the OBPR's letter of 20 April 2022.

Specific revisions include:

- Additional text to the 'Need for Government action' section to provide further explanation of the role of government in this space, including alternatives to government intervention and constraints or barrier to achieving the laws' goals.
- Edits to the 'impact' section of Option 1 to better explain the benefits and issues and reduce mention of Option 3 in Options 1 and 2.
- Amendments to text on price suppression in Option 3 to describe the laws' impacts on stakeholders more widely, including on consumers.
- Additional text in Option 3 to outline how reforms align Australia's illegal logging laws with international best practice.
- Additional text to the 'Consultation' section to provide further information on stakeholder input and how this was used in designing the three options included in the RIS.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

ROY

Rosemary Deininger Deputy Secretary Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

20 July 2022