

Dear Dr Garnaut,

I understand you have been invited by our present Premier, Paul Lennon, to add your expertise to forestry operations in Tasmania. You may be interested to learn that driving home to Launceston this afternoon, I observed an orange tinge to the clouds over the West Tamar, and then large amounts of smoke resulting from a forest burn-off. This form of regeneration has been widely practised by Forestry Tasmania for decades and seems the only method they will employ. There are of course many other ways of dealing with timber harvesting residue, of which you will be aware.

In a world where a great deal of lip service is being paid to methods of combating climate change but very little in the way of 'courageous' governmental action it would seem to me that tackling deforestation, especially of mature native forest such as (still) exists in Tasmania would be a reasonably simple way to go.

There will, naturally, be opposition from vested interests who much prefer the profitable, and frequently subsidised, status quo, and who are prepared to relabel mature native forest as 'regrowth', which surprisingly gives them the right to continue deforestation. The fact that all forest everywhere on the planet is 'regrowth' seemingly doesn't occur to them.

May I say how much I appreciate your accepting your Sisyphus-like task, and wish you well in it.

Rgds,

Mike Adams