FOREST PRODUCTION COUNCIL



Hon Ian Taylor M.L.A.
Minister for Conservation
and Land Management
8th Floor
32 St George's Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

FOREST SCIENCE LIBRARY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
SHO LAND MANAGEMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Dear Mr Taylor

On behalf of the Council I submit our Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 1989.

Yours sincerely

Syd Shea CHAIRMAN

6 December 1989

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FOREST PRODUCTION COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman's Report

During 1988 amendments to the CALM Act 1984 were drafted. Amongst these were changes to the Forest Production Council which would turn it into a Tripartite body of representatives from Government, Industry and Unions. As such, a review of membership would have been required.

It was anticipated that this legislation would proceed in spring 1988 and I held off meeting with the hope that it would be possible to commence the new year with a restructured Council. At the last minute the legislation did not proceed, nor did it make the autumn 1989 parliamentary session. I expect the proposed amendments to be submitted to the spring 1989 session of parliament.

Membership

The Forest Production Council is made up of 14 Members who are appointed under the provisions of Section 26 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984. It comprises:

Two ex officio members -

Dr S Shea - Chairman of Council and Executive Director of CALM.

Mr P Hewett - Deputy Chairman and Director of Forests of CALM.

Twelve members representing groups with interests in forest production. These are -

Mr A Gosatti)
Mr R Bunning)

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Mr F Gillman
                     )industries which are significant
Mr R McInnes
                     )users of timber or timber products.
Mr B Ray
Mr G Shepherd
Mr A Wheatley
Mr W Shelton
                     )member of Water Resources Council
Mr R Pollard
                    )primary producers not coming within
                    )timber and timber products category.
Mr D Spriggins
                    )a body of persons whose members by
                    )reason of their profession are
                    ) concerned in the management of
                    )forests.
Mr P McNamara
                    )a person having special experience
                    ) in commercial forestry production.
Mr J Towie *
                    ) country interests with special skill
                    )or experience relevant to the
                    )functions of the council.
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Mr Towie resigned on 13 June 1989.

Funding of the Council

All council costs and administrative support is met by the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

Meetings '

The council met only once during 1988/89.

Activities

Processing of Specialty Timber

The major item of discussion was the Valwood process, developed at the Harvey Wood Utilisation Centre, and the Department of Conservation and Land Management's intention to call for expressions of interest in the processing of a range of specialty logs.

This call, for up to 30,000 cubic metres of logs, is fulfilling a commitment made in the 1987 Timber Strategy to rensure adequate material is available for the high value adding industries such as furniture and craft wood.

Council considered the type of material on offer and provided advice to the Department on the potential impact the proposal could have on sawmillers and furniture manufacturers.

Public Acceptability of Forest Products Industry

The Council expressed concern at the apparent decline in public acceptability of Forest based industries. It resolved to prepare a discussion paper to pin-point a strategy to address the problem.

Impediments to Plantation Development

Concern was expressed at Council of the opposition in some sections of the rural community to hardwood and softwood plantations. This has lead to some local Government actions inhibiting the commercial viability of afforestation. Council resolved to quantify the problem and advise the Minister for CALM.

Sub Committees

Changes to sub committees were deferred until the amendments to the CALM Act had settled the structure and membership of Council.

SYD SHEA

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CHAIRMAN

6 December 1989