



New submission for investigation "Central West Investigation"

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**Submission for the investigation "Central West Investigation"**Submitted on **26-10-2018**

Information provided by the author:

Title: **Ms**First Name: **Vicki**Last Name: **Jackson**

Description:

I have been a resident of Lyonville for the past ten years and therefore have a view on the proposal to turn the wombat State Forest close to Lyonville into national park. Firstly, I am a strong supporter of preserving the wonderful Wombat forest, protecting it from logging, and providing a safe haven for native animals. I am also opposed to the forest being available for mining. The halt of logging in the forest has meant that the forest has maintained its character and the animals can safely live and breed there. In that respect, I think the current halt on logging whilst maintaining open access to the forest seems to have worked well, especially around Lyonville. My partner and I are daily users of the forest to walk our dog. If the national park is extended to our part of the forest around Lyonville North, we will no longer be able to walk our dog there. I think there is an argument to keep areas close to human habitation available for multiple users, including dog walking, cycling and even trail bike riding. Finally, as users of wood stoves (along with most other residents of Lyonville), the Wombat Forest is an important local and controlled source of firewood. The environmental cost of sourcing firewood from further afield would be significant. In summary, I support maintaining the current ban on logging and mining in the Wombat State Forest, but would prefer that areas close to townships are excluded from the national park proposal, which could be restricted to areas away from houses.

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