



You can help to end woodchipping and make our state government listen

Over 80% of Victorians want an end to woodchipping and logging in native forests yet neither of the major parties is listening to us. The same was true in Western Australia till the emergence of *liberals for forests*. Like our situation in Victoria, the state government of WA intended to clearfell and woodchip all unprotected Old Growth forests. *liberals for forests*, in its first election, ensured that this senseless waste of our heritage stopped in February 2001 and WA's Old Growth forests are now protected from destruction by logging.

Victoria is ready for a change, at the last Federal election almost 70,000 Victorians voted for *liberals for forests*. Under the Bracks government there has been an increase in logging and woodchipping, not a reduction. Mr Bracks announced a future reduction in logging, but this will only come in when our forests are gone, turned into woodchips for paper production overseas. Victorians will vote for the forests given the opportunity. Tell the major parties that you want a change, that you want our forests and water catchments protected.

liberals for forests is a group of liberal independents, we are not aligned with any of the current political parties. *liberals for forests* are not part of either the Liberal Party or the ALP. Victorians have a lot to gain from a party that truly reflects their wishes. A party that is accountable to people, not to a faceless, nameless party machine. A party that is not controlled by unions or powerful corporations.

Victorians know that clearfelling and woodchipping of our native forests devastates more than the trees. Our state is facing chronic water shortages and this is hurting our economy. Our prosperity and employment across the state is imperilled by this (CSIRO report). The current government knows that logging damages water catchments, with 50% of our water being lost through clearfelling.

To make up for the water lost to logging of water catchments the government is increasing water rates to reduce use. Water rates will be doubled in the near future (Melbourne Water Summit 2002) and our state economy will suffer while our catchments continue to be logged. Yet neither of the major parties will stand up for Victorians and our forests and say enough is enough. Once these forests are gone they won't return, and we will all be the poorer for it. If we don't make a stand at the next election it will be too late to stop logging of the last of our Old Growth forests.

Join *liberals for forests* and help make a difference.

There is no fee for joining, anyone that shares our aims qualifies to become a member. The only prerequisites are that you are not already a member of another political party and that you are eligible to vote at the next election. You can make a difference, it has happened elsewhere in Australia, now it is Victoria's turn.

for further information visit our webpage: www.liberalsforforests.org.au
email : liberals@forests.org.au or phone 5367 3293

Return form below to: *liberals for forests*, 448 Lygon Street, East Brunswick, Vic 3057

The Electoral Commission will contact you to confirm that your details on this form are correct.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

YES, I/WE would like to become members of *liberals for forests*.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Town/Suburb _____ Postcode _____

Phone(1) _____ Phone(2) _____ email _____

Signature _____