Submission to Senate Bushfire Enquiry

After the recent devastating bushfires here, I contacted my State Government and asked them what they had put in hand for reaforestation of those areas affected. They replied that they were just going to let the areas regrow naturally.

What about planting such species as *Nothofagus, Artherosperma, Toona, Callitris* and of course that great Australian rainforest tree *Grevillia robusta*?

All these are commercially valuable timber trees and much safer than *Eucalyptus*.

It has been stated that before the arrival of humans here with there *firestick farming* methods, the vegetation here was 30%palms, 30%pines and eucalyptus made up a proportion of the rest.

I also believe that landholder should have the option to have any type of garden they want. A lot of deaths occurred because some municapalities had a mindset of only allowing Eucalyptus trees in the area and made it practically impossible for residents to clear around their properties. Now 173 deaths later, I hope the Mayors of those municipalities sleep well at night?

Regards

Colin J Ely