

Dr Shona Batge
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
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Dear Secretary

I am writing on behalf of the Australian Forest Contractors Association Ltd (AFCA). Our organisation is the parent body for the Contractors within the harvesting and haulage Sector of the Australian timber industry and represents Contractors and their families throughout the country.

We have worked with ForestWorks since 2007, have been part of its Skills Employment Council since its inception, and are also involved with some of its various industry liaison networks (e.g Queensland industry network).

In addition, some examples of the various areas in which we have contributed to ForestWorks on multiple levels include participating in the reviews of skill standards and training materials; input and participation in Working Groups for qualifications (e.g Certificate 111 Log truck driving), validation of the industry skills scans, and the attendance at the annual conference put on by ForestWorks by myself our Chairman and members of our Board of Directors.

We look forward to continuing our industry partnership with them.

We believe ForestWorks accurately and reliably represents the views of the industry on skills and employment issues, and it has the full support of industry in its submissions and reports to Government. We value their contribution and the advice and knowledge they provide towards skilling the current and future workforce and in our view they are a key component of our Industry.

Further, we strongly believe that we need that their Industry Skills Council role to be continued for the benefit of the entire Australian forest and timber industry .

Yours sincerely

David Drane
Manager,
Australian Forest Contractors Association Ltd