

05 June 2009

Mr Ted Stubbersfield
Director
Outdoor Structures Australia
PO Box 517
GATTON QLD 4343

Dear Mr Stubbersfield

I refer to your enquiry of 2 June 2009 concerning spotted gum.

There are several species found in Queensland that are commonly known as spotted gum:

- *Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *variegata* occurring mainly in the Springsure-Maryborough region in central eastern Queensland to Coffs Harbour in New South Wales;
- *Corymbia citriodora* subsp. *citriodora*, also known as lemon-scented gum, occurring mainly north from the Springsure-Maryborough region, overlapping with *C. citriodora* subsp. *variegata*, to the Atherton Tableland; and
- *Corymbia henryi*, also known as large-leaved spotted gum, occurring on relatively infertile soils from the Brisbane area to south of Grafton in New South Wales.

Spotted gum is generally found in dry sclerophyll forests and is not a rainforest species. Sclerophyll forests are forests which include species with drought resisting "hard leaves". Dry sclerophyll forests are sclerophyll forests occurring in drier regions and have an open canopy with a predominantly grassy understorey.

The harvest of species such as spotted gum from State-owned native forests in South East Queensland is subject to the South East Queensland Forests Agreement (SEQFA). Some of the key outcomes of the SEQFA are:

- A world class conservation reserve system;
- Ecologically sustainable management of forests;
- No clearfelling;
- No export wood chip industry based on native forests;

- Native hardwood plantations to enable the industry to transition to a plantation based resource.

Harvesting on State-owned native forests in the SEQFA area is in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Native Forest Timber Production on State Lands (2007)*. The Code of Practice defines the principles, policies and practices for ecologically sustainable timber production from State-owned native forests and seeks to ensure that:

- the forest estate is assessed and protected from loss or degradation;
- harvesting is planned to ensure that social, nature conservation, forest values and environmental needs are identified and provided;
- harvesting practices are safe, sustainable and protect the forest from damage and/or material or serious environmental harm;
- corrective action will be taken if damage and/or material or serious environmental harm occurs;
- the forest is regenerated to at least maintain its productivity; and
- research and development is applied to improve forest management and management practices.

The Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) Forest Products has an Environmental Management Policy that states that environmental integrity (responsible, sound environmental management) is a core value of DERM Forest Products and essential to its future commercial success. The Policy also states that DERM Forest Products will conduct all operations in accordance with legislative and other requirements, and demonstrate due diligence in regard to preventing environmental harm.

Should you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me on telephone 07 3234 0120.

Yours sincerely



Jane Siebuhr
Senior Project Officer Marketing and Resources