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Hon Brian Ellis MLC Chairman Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs Parliament House PERTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6000

Dear Mr Ellis

## PETITION NO. 81 - PRESERVATION OF WARRUP FOREST BLOCK

Thank you for your letter dated 3 November 2011 regarding Petition No. 81 regarding Warrup forest block.

The Standing Committee has acknowledged the Environmental Protection Authority's recommendations from its report on the mid-term audit of performance of the Forest Management Plan 2004-2013 (FMP) that a range of management issues needed consideration in the development of the next forest management plan. The Standing Committee also identified as a priority compliance by contractors engaged by the Forest Products Commission (FPC).

I would like to assure you that compliance by the FPC and other proponents with the requirements of the FMP is a key area of focus for the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

Extensive discussions have occurred between DEC and the FPC in regard to the harvesting operations in Warrup block and the conditions of approval will be detailed in the associated Planning checklist for disturbance activities. This includes strategies to account for many of the concerns raised by the petitioners, such as implementing habitat requirements and safeguarding identified Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.

Yours sincerely

Keiran McNamara **DIRECTOR GENERAL** 

Keura Mulaan

19 December 2011

CC

Mr David Hartley, Acting General Manager, Forest Products Commission

**PUBLIC**