13/7/1998

WOMBAT FOREST SOCIETY inc.

Wild & Wonderful Wood & Water Wildlife & Work

Reg. No A0029445N
PO Box 428, Daylesford. 3460.
Ph/Fax: 5348 1748.

July 13, 1998.

TO: Peter Butcher.
Environmental Management Officer,
Goulburn-Murray Water.

FROM: Tim Anderson.
President
Wombat Forest Society.

Dear Peter,

this is a formal complaint against the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, for its continued practice of disregarding the proper interpretation and implementation of the Code of Forest Practice.

The Goulburn-Murray Water's Report, Wombat State Forest Field Investigation Report (March 1998), Page 20, Photo 9, Boundary Road, highlighted a coupe with large amounts of debris in the drainage lines. The drainage lines throughout this coupe were all totally burnt in the regeneration burn operations, contrary to the Code of Forest Practice.

This has been virtually the constant practice in most regeneration burns through-out the forest over the last ten years. The Wombat Forest Society believes that this highlights a flippant regard towards DNRE's obligations to manage the Wombat State Forest for all values, including catchments.

The WFS would also like to lay a complaint with regards to the regeneration burn operations carried out on a coupe that lies to the East of the Loddon River, immediately above the crossing of the Loddon River on Bridge Road. This coupe is bounded to the East by Trailer Track. (See attached maps).

This coupe was burnt in a way that crown scorch occurred over many parts of the 'burn'. The ground litter and logging debris has been all burnt and there are no drainage lines that have not been burnt.

This coupe is again indicative of the disregard towards catchment values, in the DNRE's operations. It does not display the intended adherence to the Code of Forest Practice mentioned in the Wombat Field Report.

Also enclosed is part of DNRE's reply to the WFS submission on the 1998/2001 Wood Utilization Plans. Is this reply valid given the false silvicultural interpretation in O'Shaughnssy et al Lerderderg Report, pg 5. 6.1 (c). (explanation in accompanying letter)?

The Wombat Forest Society is interested in seeing the highest standards of management implemented in the Wombat Forest.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Anderson.
President,
Wombat Forest Society.