

8 August 2011

Dear Senators,

It was a pleasure to sit in on the 3 public Senate Inquiry hearings regarding the status, health and sustainability of the Australian Koala. It was a truly eye opening and compelling experience to see the dire need so clearly presented to have the koala listed as at least vulnerable in Victoria and South Australia and critically endangered in SE Queensland and northern NSW. There may not be enough “scientific” evidence but the picture is true and clear. This cannot be denied.

The inadequacies in the system that were so evident in the testimony of the Endangered Species Scientific committee led me to believe that great changes need to be made. The same goes for the testimony and wishes represented by the logging, development and mining industries as well as council representatives. Business as usual clearly seems to have precedence when considering the truth about the koalas.

The Strezlecki and Bermagui populations of koalas surely present the hope of the future and I implore you to consider this into your recommendations 24th August. The destruction of the habitat must stop now and plans for the future need to begin before it is too late.

I assure you that I will be awaiting the word for koalas and I hope that the future will be brighter for them as well as us all.

Sincerely
Meghan Halverson
Buderim Qld 4556

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MB88NL36UmQ>
http://suggest.getup.org.au/forums/60819-getup-campaign-suggestions/suggestions/2046177-saving-the-australian-koala-we-are-heading-to-mel?tracking_code=2250716e3c003ecd6a58422167cde7b8