



Inver TUCKER

ATT MR MARK WARNER

15 October 2012

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIROMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Inquiry into the Sandalwood Industry in Western Australia

### Item A

When we look at existing sandalwood reserves and consider what was originally growing and the vast location areas where it grew.

It is plain there is no management nor has there been.

Sandalwood is now only growing in what was hard to get areas.

However modern equipment has now allowed the rape to continue.

Also roads tracks established with no rehabilitation.

< 3years experience on Riverina >

Again no management but they have opened our stations up to all manner of intrusions.

When you consider our duty of care, F.P.C has saddled all station owners with a liability which could destroy our financial well being .

It would appear the F.P.C themselves are aware that money should be spent on rectification but are not permitted to .

Their field staff appears to be decent people who would assist pastoralists.

However there is a hostility which appear to come from as high as the minister.

Example.

Stations < myself > offered \$ 1300.00 per tonne for dry,

Sandalwood and others \$ 2000.00 which they F.P.C know is \$ 1300.00 is about cost.

Another potential problem lies with their contract harvester.

No police checks on them or their employees' vehicles not consistent with the government required standards.

This is a general condition not only here .

Because of our remoteness we cannot afford people with unstable personalities out here Which would be picked up in a police check.

We have noticed an increase in cattle being shot + encountering people shooting and unlicensed vehicles since sandal wooding has begun.

Also taking water without permission from mills.<45mile>

This reflects on management or lack of again.

There must be a commitment to rehabilitation which would discourage vehicle movement.<deep+rough>

A question must be asked.

If pastoralist have grazing rights to all herbage and sandalwood is part of this.

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Then sandalwood belongs to the station owner and a reasonable payment to them for its loss + damage to the bush plus the huge intrusion to our station and personal lives should be considered and another question.  
How can the government be involved in a private industry as a monopoly?  
Why not crayfish, wet fishing, wheat growing ect and are not monopolies illegal.

There is no doubt that the only money in our remote areas is sandalwood. This should be channelled into remote areas even if it would only repairs the mismanagement of the pastoral industry by our government ministers now and in the past.

I.E fencing, water points and buildings.

All have been allowed to collapse.

Why? no management and any easy money taken by a government with no conscious.

Had a percentage of sandalwood money been given for improving such as fencing, water points, accommodation on the station.

Which in our common, talk is a fair go for the bush.

The bush could become alive again.

I have spoken about allowing or even a partnership with the pastoralist to plant and harvest sandalwood a huge new industry would develop.

But no interest except same old same old ....

However our old ways are not easy to change.

We have the iron ore industry which was nothing until private industry was allowed to do what private industry can do. Huge today.

Sandalwood should be allowed to be planted by station owners which would be in the hundreds of thousands, over the years this may have a 50 years maturity time. However there would be a calculated return per year which would increase the interest + viability of stations.

The calculation base on 50 years would 50 kg of wood a \$ 16000.00 per tonne or \$ 800 per tree divided by 50 an increase or \$16 per tree per year.

Multiplied by several hundred thousand trees.

A value of on 100,000 trees would be \$1,600,000.00 per year.

Station owners control fires and grazing.

We would have a personal person interested to work.

This is a winning combination.

From

IAN TUCKER

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