



WAVERLEY COUNCIL

RENEWABLE TIMBERS

POLICY

1993



POLICY FOR THE USE OF RENEWABLE TIMBERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF WAVERLEY

1.0 Introduction

In the last decade, 110 million hectares of rainforest disappeared from earth and an estimated 1 million species, some not yet discovered, will disappear from the earth in the next decade, if rainforest destruction continues at its present rate. Waverley Municipal Council accepts its responsibilities as both a timber user and as a consent authority to reduce the use of non-renewable timber.

This policy has been prepared to meet the objectives of Council in reducing the Greenhouse Effect by promoting the preservation of rainforests, and for this purpose to purchase and use renewable plantation timber and new growth forest timber as an alternative to non-renewable rainforest timber in the erection of buildings owned by Council, and to encourage and promote others to preserve existing rainforests.

2.0 Objectives

- 2.1 To minimise the Greenhouse Effect by the preservation of tropical rainforests in accordance with the Greenhouse Strategy adopted by Council.
- 2.2 To ensure the activities and operations of the Council do not contribute to the destruction of tropical rainforests, either:
 - (a) directly through the purchase and use of rainforest timber, or
 - (b) indirectly through the purchase of products containing rainforest timber
- 2.3 To raise community awareness of the impact of tropical rainforest destruction on the global climate, and to promote and encourage private property owners and builders to use alternatives to non-renewable rainforest timber wherever possible.

3.0 Definitions

Non-Renewable Timbers: These include both the imported and Australian native rainforest timber species as listed in the guidelines under this policy.

Renewable Timbers: These include both the imported and Australian native plantation timber species as listed in the guidelines under this policy.

New Growth Forest Timbers: These include the new growth Australian native timbers as listed in the guidelines under this policy.

4.0 Policy Statement

- 4.1 This policy applies to any development exceeding \$500,000 in cost and to all buildings and properties owned by Council; all public works performed by Council, its staff or agents; and all timber products, including furniture and fittings, purchased by Council, its staff or agents.

4.2 Council will cease to use or purchase any timber products composed of or made from the non-renewable species of trees listed in the attached guidelines as imported and Australian native "rainforest timbers" or any other timbers determined by Council to be not sustainably harvested.

Council will confine the use and purchase of timber materials and products to those timber species listed in the attached guidelines for the use of timbers and defined as renewable "plantation" or "new growth forest" timbers with a preference for plantation timbers.

4.3 Council will not purchase timber products, furniture or fittings made from any tree species listed in the attached guidelines for the use of timbers and defined as "rainforest" timber.

4.4 Where the use of permitted timbers is not considered practicable and non-permitted timbers are only available for a particular use, and therefore contrary to the terms of this policy, the matter shall be referred to the Environmental Health Committee of Council for determination.

5.0 Guidelines for the Purchase and Use of Timber Products

5.1 Timbers Not Recommended For Use

IMPORTED RAINFOREST TIMBERS

Council does not recommend the use of timbers commonly marketed as **Meranti, Pacific Maple, Merbau, Philippine Mahogany, Kapur and Ramin**. Often these names can actually refer to several different species of tropical timbers:

The species listed in this category are:

Agathis	Kempas	Narra
Alan (Batu)	Keroewing (Keruing)	New Guinea Beech
Almon (Philippine Mahogany)	Keruing	New Guinea Mahogany
Amboyna Wood (Narra)	Ketiau (Nyatoh)	New Guinea Walnut
Balau (Batu)	Koto	Nyatoh
Balsa	Kwila (Merbau)	QBA Suluk (Meranti)
Bangkitan (Ph. Mahogany)	Lauan (Meranti)	Pacific Maple
Batu	Lanutan (Ramin)	Padauk
Baygo (Ramin)	Mahogany, African	Palaquium
Betis (Nyatoh)	Mangasinoro	Philippine Mahogany
Borneo Camperwood (Kapur)	Marrim	Pink Satinwood
Calantas	Mayapis (Ph Mahogany)	Ramin
Camphorwood	Mavota (Ramin)	Red Luaun (Ph. Mahogany)
Gaharu Buaja (Ramin)	Melawis (Ramin)	Rosewood (Narra)
Gmelina	Mengkulang	Selangan Kacha (Batu)
Ipil (Merbau)	Merand	Seraya (Meranti)
Iroko	Merawan	Tangulle (Ph. Mahogany)
Jelutong (Djelutong)	Merbau	Teak
Kalantas (Calantas)	Mersawa	Vesi (Merbau)
Kapur (Kapoer)	Motoa	
Keladin (Kapur)		

The most commonly **imported rainforest timbers** used for building materials and products are:

Timber Species	Uses of Timber
Batu (Shorea spp.)	House posts, Wharves, Ship-building
Calantas (Toona Calantas)	Furniture, Boatbuilding, Joinery and Carving
Jelutong (Dyera Costulata)	Carving, Pattern-making, Toys
Keruing (Dipterocarpus spp.)	Structural work, Poles, Beams
Kapur (Dryobalanops spp.)	Door and Window frames & sills, Joinery, Furniture, Shelving
Mengkulang (Hiritiera spp.)	Usually as Plywood, imported from Malaysia
Merand (Shorea spp.)	Door & Window Frames, Doors, internal Joinery, Mouldings
Merbau (Intsia)	Veneer, Flooring, Sills, Furniture, Boatbuilding
Narra (Pterocarpus)	Furniture, Turning and Panelling
Nyatoh (Sapotaceae spp.)	Plywood, Architraves, Mouldings, Furniture (interior only)
Phillipine Mahogany (Shorea/Parashorea spp.)	Furniture, Plywood, Boatbuilding, Joinery
Ramin (Gonostylus spp.)	Mouldings, Pict. Frames, Dowelling, Ply/Blondewood articles
Teak (Tectona Grandis)	Furniture, Outdoor Furniture, Marine Decking and Veneer

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE RAINFOREST TIMBERS

Council does **not recommend** the use of Australian Native Rainforest timbers that are not grown on plantations including:

Alder	Coachwood
Bean, Black	Cudgerie
Beach, Myrtle	Huon Pine
Beech, White	Kauri Pine
Booyong	King William Pine
Brushbox	Maple
Butternut, Rose	Mararie
Bunya Pine	Oak
Candlenut	Pigeonberry Ash
Carabeen	Queensland Maple
Cedar	Rosewood
Celery-Top Pine	Sassafras
Cheesewood, White	Silky Oak
	Teak, Australian (Crows Ash)

PLEASE NOTE: THIS LIST IS A GUIDE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE COMPREHENSIVE

5.2 Timbers **Recommended** for Use

PLANTATION TIMBERS

Council **recommends** the use of the following plantation timbers available in Australia:

Caribbean pine (*Pinus caribaea*) from Qld & NSW
Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) from North America
Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) from Qld & NSW
Oregon (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) from North America & NZ
Radiata Pine (*Pinus radiata*) from Aus, NZ, Fiji & Chile
Slash Pine (*Pinus elliottii*) from Qld, NSW & NZ
Poplar (*Populus* sp.)

NEW GROWTH TIMBERS

Council **recommends** the use of new growth native timbers including:

Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus Pilularis*)
Spotted Gum (*Eucalyptus citriodora*)
Cypress pine (*Callitris* SP)
Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*)
Flooded Gum (*Eucalyptus grandis*)
Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*)
Jarra (*Eucalyptus marginata*)
Silvertop/Stringybark (*Eucalyptus leavopinia*)
Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus siderosylon*)

NOTE: Council accepts that some timber users may require the use of native new growth forests, although Council prefers the use of plantation timbers over native timbers.