

## **ABC RN BACKGROUND BRIEFING**

Questions for Environment Minister GREG HUNT.

- + the Australian Government has estimated carbon stocks and carbon stock changes in Australia's managed native forests – what is the estimated additional carbon abatement from stopping native forest harvesting?
- + the potential carbon credits from reducing native forest harvesting in Australia were estimated in a paper published by the ANU Centre for Climate Law and Policy in 2011 – the results were 38 million tonnes a year - does government modelling show similar results?
- + what are the implications for the reporting of Australia's Forest Management emissions under Kyoto and UNFCCC rules?
- + has the government done research on how cost effective the theoretical abatement potential is from reducing native forest harvesting?
- + what research has the government done using the FullCAM model to estimate the carbon stock changes in managed native forests, including scenarios if native forest logging is reduced or stopped?
- + there is currently no methodology for avoided native forest harvest projects to bid into the Emissions Reduction Fund – has the government done work developing such a methodology? Will the government develop such a methodology?
- + If the government does not intend to develop an avoided native forest harvest methodology, why not?
- + Carbon Credits from the Cessation of Harvesting in the Central Highlands – Brief for Federal Environment Minister Greg Hunt – the brief details estimates of additional carbon abatement from stopping forest harvesting in Victoria's Central Highlands forestry region – this shows similar results using both the government method and the ANU method – does this confirm the robustness of the results?

*Submitted by Gregg Borschmann, ABC RN Background Briefing, 16 July 2015*