

### **Carbon neutral residue rhetoric promulgated by state forest agencies:**

Within the same document Department of Primary Industry researchers advise their studies focused on quantities of forest biomass available from **whole trees** (due to the inefficiencies of transporting actual logging residue) yet counter criticism of using forestry residues for energy generation by arguing that:

“The greenhouse gas balance carried out here clearly shows that, from a climate perspective, using biomass that would have otherwise been left in the forest to burn and/or decay for bioenergy generation results in positive outcomes, especially if biomass is used to produce electricity displacing the use of coal. This is true even when the carbon dioxide emissions from burning the biomass to generate energy are included in the calculations. In practice, the CO<sub>2</sub> released will be reabsorbed by the growing trees in a sustainable harvest system, eventually negating the impact of such emissions, p.3. Later, (on p.6), **forest residues again become whole logs**: 1.2 Forest harvest residues: 1.2.1 Native forests – Public:

“For native forests, residue estimations were conservative, as we only considered logs that met the specifications for pulpwood as available for extraction (typically 10 cm small end diameter overbark, and a minimum of 2.5 m in length – no species restrictions – and the crown was typically left in the forest). This was partly due to the fact that the local industry already has experience harvesting and transporting pulpwood from the forest.” North Coast Residues: A project undertaken as part of the 2023 North Coast Forestry Project

Published by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, November 2017. Authors: Fabiano Ximenes, Rebecca Coburn, Michael McLean, John Samuel, Nick Cameron, Brad Law, Caragh Threllfall, Kate Wright and Shane Macintosh