

## The cost of carbon pollution generated by logging for the Eden chipmill

Australia's initial carbon price is \$23 a tonne. The table below shows that the annual carbon bill for the emissions caused by logging for the Eden woodchip mill would be \$416 million, more than a million dollars a day.

	Hectares logged	Tonnes CO2	Australian value at \$23
<b>Victoria</b>	4,500	4,611,600	105,066,800
<b>NSW</b>	14,388	13,503,080	310,570,840
<b>Total</b>	18,888	18,114,680	415,647,640

### Calculating the CO2

Following the release of the "Green Carbon" (Mackey et al) report in August 2008, it has been possible to make a reasonably accurate calculation of the CO2 released in logging for the Eden chipmill.

According to Mackey, the average carbon capacity for all the SE Australia eucalypt forests is 640 tonnes per hectare. In those forests in our region where the actual carbon stored is currently less than the carrying capacity, this is entirely due to the previous operations of the Eden chipmill over the past 40 years, so I believe it is valid to use Mackey's figure of 640.

According to FOI information, in 2006-07 FNSW logged 14,388 hectares in the Eden, South Coast/Southern and Tumut areas.

The figures below do not include the emissions from running the mill, fuel use by logging contractors or deliveries to the mill.

The calculation is based on:

Area logged x Carbon stock per ha x 40% (loss from logging) x 3.666 (converting C to CO2)

Thus, for NSW:

14,388 x 640<sup>[1]</sup> x .4<sup>[2]</sup> x 3.666<sup>[3]</sup> = 13,503,080 tonnes of CO2

For East Gippsland:

4,500<sup>[4]</sup> x 700<sup>[5]</sup> x .4 x 3.666 = 4,611,600 tonnes

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<sup>[1]</sup> "Green Carbon – the role of natural forests in carbon storage" ANU Express 2008. B. Mackey, H. Keith, S. Berry, D. Lindenmayer: 28. This figure is the South East Australian average. We

understand that the actual figure for Eden region forests is considerably higher, but for the present purposes we propose to use 640 tonnes/ha.

[2] 40% of the carbon stored in a forest is lost to the atmosphere when it is logged, even after 150 years.

[3] The weight of a carbon dioxide molecule is 3.666 times the weight of a carbon atom

[4] Approx hectares logged in East Gippsland in 2007.

[5] Mackey: 47