

From: ALAN WILKIE  
Sent: 25 December 2008 21:58  
To: liz.kirk@forestry.gsi.gov.uk  
Subject: Scottish Climate Change Bill/Consultation on Forestry Provisions

Forestry Commission  
Silvan House  
Edinburgh.

Dear Sirs,

Scottish Climate Change Bill/Consultation on Forestry Provisions

May I comment regarding the proposal in the SCC Bill which would allow long leases and agreements over parts of national forest estate.

When walking recently through the Commission's Glen Affric Estate I noticed the remains of exotic conifer plantations prematurely felled, left to rot, to be replaced by regenerating natural woodland.

The point in relating this observation is, how we use and what we value in our countryside changes, what was once thought good practice was reconsidered and rejected. Time passes and ideas change. What future generations will prize we cannot be sure.

Therefore, I am of the belief that to grant long lease agreements over areas of the national forest estate would compromise future flexibility over the use and development of our woodlands and that the public who through the Forestry Commission have a little influence upon a small part of Scotland's landscape would find that influence diminished and surrendered to commercial interests to be exploited for their own particular benefit.

Please consider carefully as to the wisdom of ceding control, perhaps for generations, over the national assets which comprise our national forest estate.

Yours faithfully,

Alan D. L. Wilkie

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