

## **Estate Management Services**

To whom it may concern,

I manage over 800 acres of forestry in Galway and have become very concerned over the last number of years at the apparent lack of interest from the state in encouraging our sector to plant for the future.

It is vital for the future of our woodlands in Ireland that the amended bill is passed ASAP. We need to be planting far more woodland both hard and soft wood.

We have 600 acres of Sitka Spruce and it's a vital income for us and others further down the supply chain. We need simpler and clearer guide lines on planting and felling licences and for this process to be speeded up considerably. At the moment it can take over a year to get a felling licence which is absolutely ridiculous if we want to keep our business running successfully into the future we need this time frame to be drastically reduced.

We support local saw mills and timber harvesting crews across the country and its vital this bill is passed.

Yours sincerely,

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