FROM

UNION TAKES LEGAL ACTION AGAINST GREENS

The Construction Forestry Mining Energy Union today announced that it would be taking legal action against the Wilderness Society if it did not immediately retract statements made about the Union.

Mr Trevor Smith, Joint President of the C.F.M.E.U. and National Secretary of the Forestry Division stated.

Union has over a number of years tolerated "The mistepresentations and untruths peddled by conservation groups such as the Wilderness Society. However, this Union and its members have had enough. This debate will not be allowed to degenerate into an excuse for people who are anti union and anti worker to run down this organisation or the people it represents."

Mr Smith's comments were made after a National hook up of Forestry Division Officials with the ACTU which determined a hard hitting campaign to back the Forest and Forest Products Industry.

"The Union is going all out between now and the caucus meeting to mobilise its members to protect this industry", Mr Smith said.

Mr Smith refused to rule out a repeat of the log truck blockade of Canberra which was a feature of past battles with the Greens.

"We will do what is necessary", said Mr Smith.

If believed that the Union has not been contacted by anyone in the Prime Minister's Office over the current controversy.

For Further Comment Michael O'Connor

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CONSTRUCTION

FORESTRY

MINING

ENERGY

UNION

LETTER OF DEMAND

We demand that your organisation forwards to us an assurance in writing that you will not condone or participate in any action that will harass, hinder or threaten timber workers. Further, you must give an assurance that you will not condone or participate in action that would prevent timber workers from earning a living.

If this written assurance has not been received by our office before 5,00 pm on Friday the 13th of January we will take the appropriate action.

Yours,

Michael O'Connor

Assistant National Secretary

Forestry Division - CFMEU



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