



Media Release

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Forestry can play a key role in climate policy

The National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) welcomes the inclusion of direct forestry measures as part of the climate change policy package announced by the Federal Opposition today.

“These measures reflect the important role forestry can play in removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as well as the green energy that can be produced from wood wastes that are a by-product of tree growing and processing activities”, said NAFI CEO Allan Hansard.

Forestry can play an important role in climate change policy through:

- the carbon stored in growing forests;
- the carbon stored in durable wood products and substitution for high emission intensive building materials such as steel and concrete; and
- the renewable green energy produced from wood wastes that can displace emissions from fossil fuel based energy.

“NAFI is committed to working with the Australian Government and the Coalition to promote climate change policies that recognise the full contribution forestry can make to a lower emissions future. We are therefore interested in pursuing further details about the package and emissions reduction fund.

In addition to climate mitigation benefits, the promotion of renewable industries such as forestry can provide a range of economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly in rural and regional Australia.

“Not only does commercial forestry create jobs and rural income, the planting of trees in the landscape can enhance agricultural productivity and diversify regional economies.

We are also particularly interested in promoting better links between forestry and agricultural practices for carbon storage, including tree bio-sequestration and soil conservation”, Mr Hansard said.

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