



## Media Release

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### Forestry key to meeting CPRS targets

As the Parliament debates legislation for the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) today the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) stresses the need for a bipartisan commitment to addressing climate change while providing the best possible outcomes for the economy as well as the environment.

“The CPRS legislation currently under debate will have a profound impact on Australia’s environment and economy as we move towards a low-carbon future. Australia’s forest industry is key to meeting the nation’s carbon reduction targets so it is vitally important that the legislation for the CPRS allows the full participation of Australia’s renewable, sustainable forest industries,” said NAFI CEO Allan Hansard.

“Forestry is recognised as Australia’s only carbon positive industry, and with the right legislative framework, will be able to contribute as much as 20 percent of Australia’s emission reduction targets by 2020.

“Forestry is a renewable resource that provides significant carbon abatement potential through the growing trees, the carbon stored in wood products and the renewable, green energy produced from wood waste. The industry is also well placed to assist other industries as they transition to a new low-carbon economy.

“NAFI has been working closely with the Government to get this legislation right so that there is incentive for forestry companies to opt-in to the scheme and certainty over carbon estimating methods, while rectifying some inconsistencies across measures such as the CPRS Fuel Tax Adjustment Arrangements which currently exclude forestry.

“Australia’s forest industry is committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for Australia’s economy and environment. We currently have representatives in Bonn, Germany taking part in the latest round of talks under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, to ensure a voice for Australia’s forest industry. These current negotiations are a key point leading up to the Copenhagen talks in December where it’s hoped an international climate deal can be agreed upon.

“In this time of economic uncertainty, forestry is one of the few industries that can provide a significant and increasing contribution to Australia’s carbon reduction targets while continuing to create jobs and increase investment in rural and regional communities.

“NAFI is urging all Members of Parliament to work together to ensure the significant environmental and economic opportunities that can be provided by Australia’s renewable and sustainable forest industry are realized,” Mr Hansard said.

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