

# TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

## Cypress Pine Industry Seeks Clarification on Future

Queensland's cypress pine processing industry which supports over one thousand Queenslanders and is a significant economic contributor to many Western towns including Chinchilla, Injune, Roma, Augathella, Mitchell, Mungallala, Inglewood, Cecil Plains, Tambo, Surat and Yuleba is seeking urgent clarification from the Beattie Government regarding its future.

The industry via its peak body Timber Queensland has written to the Premier seeking assurances that:

- The Western Hardwoods process will not pre-empt outcomes for a Statewide Forest Process for the cypress resource, and the proposed Western Hardwoods reserve will only see a cessation of hardwood logging as a Western Hardwoods outcome.
- Cypress resource planning issues will not be addressed in this term of Government as indicated to Local Government representatives by the Premier's office.
- The Government will honour the remaining 9 years of the existing 15 year sale agreements.
- There will be no new restrictions to areas available for logging of cypress until a Cypress Statewide Forest Planning process is conducted.
- No miller will be required to harvest from outside their traditional allocation zone areas without full agreement of all parties through a Cypress Statewide Forest Planning process.

Timber Queensland's CEO Rod McInnes said *"Industry had been subject to rumour and uncertainty regarding its future over recent months, with speculation that resource would be denied from the recently certified forests without a thorough investigation based on science and fact"*.

*"The time has come for the Premier to come clean and make a clear and unambiguous statement about his Government's intention on this important industry currently operating in forests internationally recognised as World's Best Practice"* Rod McInnes concluded.

Ends.

For further information please contact Rod McInnes on 07 3254 1989 or 0419 704 028.

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