



Timber recycles carbon



TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR'S TREE TALK SPOT ON

Peak industry body Timber Queensland applauds environmental crusader and Australian of the Year 2007 Professor Tim Flannery's recent comments regarding trees and carbon.

Interviewed on this week's edition of the Australian Broadcasting Commission's Enough Rope program Professor Flannery reminded people of an important environmental and climate change message – trees are nothing but solidified carbon.

"A lot of people somehow imagine trees grow from the ground, they don't they grow from the air, they are congealed carbon dioxide you know and all of that carbon is stored in them, otherwise it would be out there in the atmosphere heating our planet...", said Professor Flannery.

Timber Queensland's CEO, Mr Rod McInnes agrees with Professor Flannery and says that if more people understood this we would be further down the path of halting the effects of climate change.

"The other important fact that people are often surprised and excited to learn is that when a tree gets made into something else, most of the carbon stays inside the timber," said Mr Rod McInnes.

"Simply by choosing timber products over alternatives such as steel or aluminium people are doing their bit for the environment," he said.

"The average timber house frame storing around 10 tonnes of carbon.

"Queensland builds around 45,000 houses each year. If all of those houses were timber framed we could store an additional 450,000 tonnes of carbon. And that's new and additional storage because the harvested plantations are replanted to begin the cycle all over again."

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