

TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

Budget Provision for Plantation Expansion Welcomed by Industry

"The Queensland Government's commitment to \$44.6 million over seven years to establish State owned hardwood saw log plantations is welcomed by industry", says peak industry body Timber Queensland.

Timber Queensland's CEO, Mr Rod McInnes, said industry was pleased to see the Government honouring its commitment under the South East Queensland Forestry Agreement and the Western Hardwoods Plan to replace the log volumes previously provided by native forest, with log volumes from plantations.

This investment by the Government will not only provide much needed timber for Queensland's building industry, it will remove 3.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere providing additional benefit to Queensland's climate and greenhouse gas emissions issue.

"We call upon the Government to seek expressions of interest from reputable plantation growers to ensure Queensland tax payers get the best value for this significant investment", Rod McInnes concluded.

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