



Timber recycles carbon

TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

FORESTRY PLANTATIONS QUEENSLAND SETS OUT TO DESTROY INDUSTRY

Latest move is positive proof.

Rogue Government owned plantation grower Forestry Plantations Queensland (FPQ) is hell bent on destroying Queensland \$2.4 billion timber industry and the 20,000 jobs it supports says Rod McInnes, CEO of peak industry body Timber Queensland.

"In November last year FPQ used its monopoly supply power to slam up hoop pine royalties between 9 and 14%, backdating the increase to July 1st 2007. FPQ refused to negotiate with industry and in order to comply with dispute resolution processes in sale agreements, industry had to pay the new price before it could attempt dispute resolution. FPQ frustrated all attempts to arbitrate the price and has forced industry to the Supreme Court to obtain a ruling on the arbitration process," said Rod McInnes.

"Now in a deliberately provocative move FPQ has decided to apply periodic (CPI) review to the already disputed price adding a further 5% increase and backdating this increase to 1 January 2008".

"This latest piece of corporate thuggery is proof positive that FPQ is not interested in the future of the Queensland Timber Industry. It simply wants to make short term financial gain even if it causes mills to close and jobs to be lost in the longer term," Rod McInnes continued.

"The Government must act now to rein in this out-of-control business.

"I don't know how much more evidence the Government can possibly need," Rod McInnes concluded.

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