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A3P welcomes Tony Burke to federal forestry portfolio

A3P, the peak industry body representing Australia's \$4 billion plantation products and paper industry, congratulates Mr Tony Burke MP on his appointment as the incoming Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher said, "A3P looks forward to working with Mr Burke and the incoming Government to focus policy on the growth and benefits of Australia's sustainable plantation products and paper industry.

"A3P is ready to assist Mr Burke to implement the incoming Government's commitment to crack down on the importation of illegally logged timber. A3P is the only national forest industry organisation with an illegal logging policy that provides a practical guide for our industry to demonstrate the legality of its products.

"A3P is keen to work alongside Mr Burke and Senator Penny Wong, soon to be Minister of Climate Change and Water, to maximise the significant contribution our industry can make to mitigating climate change.

"A3P is uniquely positioned to lead this process; our industry produces greenhouse friendly building materials and renewable energy (plantation and sawmilling sector) and is carbon-intensive and trade-exposed (pulp and paper sector).

"A3P is pleased the incoming Government will establish ForestWorks as the new Forest and Forest Products Industry Skills Council. As a member of Forestworks, A3P is committed to developing practical solutions to addressing the industry skills shortage.

"A3P also welcomes the appointments of Senator Kim Carr, Minister of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and Mr Craig Emerson MP, Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy, and Minister Assisting the Finance Minister on Deregulation.

"A3P was invited by Mr Carr to participate in the Australian Labor Party's manufacturing roundtable which aimed to identify strategies to drive industry innovation.

"A3P raised the need for a single streamlined process for greenhouse and energy reporting and we look forward to working with Mr Carr and Mr Emerson to address this important issue", he said.

Mr Tony Burke was the previous Shadow Minister for Immigration, Integration and Citizenship. He was elected to Federal Parliament in 2004 as the Member for Watson and was previously a member of the NSW Legislative Council.

Further information

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