

Tuesday 20 April 2010: – For Immediate Release

A3P thanks Senator Carr and calls for whole-of-Government Action

A3P has welcomed the release of the final report of the Pulp and Paper Industry Strategy Group (PPISG) by Senator the Hon Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry Science and Research.

The report demonstrates how Australia's GDP could be boosted by up to \$38.7 billion and jobs increased by over 3,500 by 2020 as a result of enhancement of the Australian paper manufacturing industry. With the right policy settings in areas such as plantation investment, renewable energy, trade, skill development, infrastructure and investment facilitation, these and other benefits would be achieved.

"Senator Carr and his department have engaged positively and constructively with all the interest groups that make up the Australian pulp and paper industry. This report is the outcome of that engagement process and we would like to thank Senator Carr for his support," said A3P CEO Richard Stanton

"A3P now calls on Senator Carr's colleagues, and the Australian Government as a whole, to address the specific recommendations detailed in the report." Mr Stanton added

"Many of these recommendations relate to legislation and other mechanisms which do not fall within Senator Carr's portfolio. A whole-of-government response is required to ensure investment in the Australian paper manufacturing industry is maintained and the opportunities are realised."

Key PPISG recommendations to realise growth potential include:

- Specific investment attraction programs for new manufacturing plants
- Incentives for more investment in paper recycling infrastructure
- Credits for heat capture in cogeneration circuits
- Strengthened, proactive anti-dumping measures
- Road transport reform for greater freight efficiency
- Greater support for workforce training
- Competitive electricity and gas supplies
- *Climate Change Action Fund* support for renewable energy
- Uniform forest certification of paper products

Minister Carr launched the report as part of his keynote address to the APPITA Symposium "Sustainability in a carbon regulated world – what is actually happening?" in Melbourne, which was attended by delegates from across the Australasian pulp and paper industry.

The PPISG is made up of the CEO's of all the major Australian pulp and paper manufacturing companies, union and Government representatives and several independent experts. A3P CEO Richard Stanton is an observer on the Group.

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Further information

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