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## Emissions trading scheme must recognise carbon benefits of timber

A3P welcomes the findings of a major report which identifies an emissions trading scheme as an opportunity to alert consumers to timber's low greenhouse impact.

"Impact of carbon trading on wood products", prepared by Ms Alison George from Monash University and released today by Forest and Wood Products Australia, says further recognition of the carbon stored in harvested wood products is needed.

Issues such as the carbon credit period for wood products, level of compliance with the Kyoto Protocol and compensation paid to competing products, will determine if the carbon benefits of timber are accurately recognised.

Representing Australia's plantation products and paper industry, A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher said "The design of Australia's emissions trading scheme presents an opportunity for Governments to appropriately recognise the low greenhouse impact of timber.

"Plantation forests absorb carbon which is stored in the trees and remains in the harvested wood and paper products for many years.

"Manufacturing wood products use less energy to make and results in lower emissions than non-wood products.

"Wood residues and waste can also be used as a carbon-neutral energy source, replacing emissions intensive fossil fuels.

"Our knowledge about carbon storage is constantly improving and A3P, in conjunction with the NSW Department of Primary Industries, is about to embark on a project to examine how carbon stored in timber can be acknowledged in an emissions trading scheme.

"A3P is developing robust options to present to Government for a national emissions trading scheme that recognises the many greenhouse benefits of a sustainable plantation products and paper industry", he said.

Download the report from: [www.fwpa.com.au](http://www.fwpa.com.au)

### Further information

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