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## Garnaut: Bigger role for plantations & paper industry



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The interim report of the Garnaut Review on climate change says Australia's emissions trading scheme must value the carbon benefits of wood.

Welcoming the report, CEO of industry body A3P, Mr Neil Fisher said "The Australian plantation products and paper industry can make a positive contribution to meeting Australia's climate change objectives provided our emissions trading scheme is developed appropriately.

"Professor Garnaut's report helps draw attention to the key issues for the plantation products and paper industry:

1. The positive role forests play in storing carbon;
2. Measures are needed to maintain the competitiveness of trade-exposed emissions-intensive industries such as the pulp and paper sector; and
3. Protecting some industries, such as steel, may lead to unwanted distortions in local markets, disadvantaging greenhouse positive products such as timber.

"An emissions trading scheme must ensure Australian's pulp and paper production remains at the forefront internationally in terms of quality, efficiency and environmental performance.

"Of the fibre used to make paper in Australia, 50 per cent is sourced from recycled fibre, more than 30 per cent from plantations and 7 per cent from timber manufacturing processes.

"A failure to protect the economic viability of Australia's pulp and paper industry will lead to an increase in imported paper products, many of which come from suspect or illegal origins.

"A3P will take up the offer to make further submissions to the Garnaut review. We look forward to a clear and stable policy response from Government so our industry can maximise our significant contribution to clean production and increased carbon storage", he said.

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### Further information

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