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A3P welcomes acknowledgement of Australia's forests & forest products industry in Garnaut Review draft report



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A3P, the peak national body for Australia's plantation products and paper industry, has today welcomed the Garnaut Climate Change Review draft report, launched at the National Press Club of Canberra.

A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher said "A3P warmly welcomes the Garnaut Climate Change Review draft report. We particularly welcome the acknowledgement of the role that forests and wood products could play in an Australian Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) through offset measures.

Australia's forests can make a significant contribution to meeting Australia's carbon abatement targets by 2020. A contribution which should not, and has not, been ignored through the Garnaut Review draft report," He said.

A3P welcomes the following key areas from the Garnaut Climate Change Review draft report:

- The need for a global mitigation effort.
- The desirability of broad coverage for the Emissions Trading Scheme.
- Return of all revenue to households and businesses (although A3P questions that predetermined proportions to households, business, and R&D are appropriate).

A3P, with our industry peers, has clearly stated that the forests and forest products industry is ready to play its part through full inclusion in an Emissions Trading Scheme including:

- Reforestation (new forests) included from commencement of scheme.
- Forest management (existing forests) included and conservatively treated as neutral.
- Carbon stored in forest products acknowledged and included.
- Bioenergy included and impediments removed.
- Measures to maintain the competitiveness of the pulp and paper sector.

A3P, in accordance with the recently released Forestry single industry position, will be making a submission to Garnaut and will continue to work constructively with the Government to ensure that the forests and forest products industry can effectively contribute to reducing Australia's emissions.

To view the single industry position released by A3P, NAFI, AFG, TIMA, TCA and CFMEU please visit:

<http://www.a3p.asn.au/admin/assets/pdf/Submissions%20and%20Reports/2008%20Position%20Paper%20-%20ETS%20and%20Australia's%20Forest%20Forestry%20%20Wood%20Products.pdf>

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Further information

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