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## Tas voters tell Federal Labor; “reinstate wood waste in RET”

If Labor opposes the re-instatement of native forest wood waste in the Renewable Energy Target (RET) it could cost them any chance in the four non-metro seats of Tasmania at the next Federal election, according to a snap ReachTEL poll.

The poll in the seats of Bass, Braddon, Franklin and Lyons, found an overwhelming majority of voters (67%) supported or strongly supported the re-inclusion of wood waste in the RET.

Across the four electorates 62.5% of those in support were Labor voters.

A third of Labor voters told pollsters they would actually change their vote at the next election to a candidate who supported the inclusion of native forest wood waste in the RET.

The Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Chief Executive Officer Mr Ross Hampton said, “This poll clearly shows most voters in these key federal seats which, in a tight race, could easily decide the next Government are on the renewable side of this debate. What’s more, these voters believe in this issue strongly enough to indicate they will vote accordingly. Whilst ALP has indicated its current unease with the issue, we hope it will listen to its constituents. The use of offcuts and residues from sustainable native forestry harvesting and sawmilling operations was accepted by the Labor Party from 2007- 2010 and there is no reason it cannot be again.”

Question: Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate that supported the reinstatement of wood waste in the RET? (polled 21 May)						
		Total	Liberal	Labor	Greens	Swinging
Bass	More likely	<b>42.2%</b>	51.1%	34.0%	24.2%	51.6%
	Less likely	<b>14.1%</b>	9.4%	17.0%	19.7%	12.9%
Braddon	More likely	<b>42.8%</b>	48.6%	38.6%	31.9%	41.5%
	Less likely	<b>14.4%</b>	11.8%	13.2%	29.8%	11.3%
Franklin	More likely	<b>39.1%</b>	48.7%	39.5%	26.9%	21.3%
	Less likely	<b>14.3%</b>	7.0%	16.7%	21.8%	23.4%
Lyons	More likely	<b>41.0%</b>	56.6%	32.4%	12.2%	50.0%
	Less likely	<b>13.7%</b>	7.6%	15.3%	31.1%	13.0%

### About biomass wood waste:

*Sustainably managed harvesting and processing operations in Australia generate mountains of offcuts and organic waste every year. These offcuts include sawdust, shavings and bark. Additional biomass is left on the forest floor, providing mountains of kindling for mega bushfires or pushed into piles to rot away or be burnt to clear the site for regeneration. With the incentive of renewable energy certificates many regional enterprises would be able to convert coal or gas fired power and heating facilities to use the wood waste, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The commercial forest operators who are members of the Australian Forest Products Association are 100% environmentally certified by either FSC or PEFC (AFS) and plant or sow more than 60 million trees each year.*

AFPA represents forest growers, harvesters, and manufacturers of timber and paper products.

**Media Contact:** Elizabeth Goodfellow  
AFPA Communications and New Media Officer  
(m) 0409 962 250 (e) elizabeth.goodfellow@ausfpa.com.au