

Troy Bell - Independent



South Australia's forest industries have a significant presence in the Electorate of Mount Gambier, directly employing 1476 workers. It is vital for the continued growth of our forest industries that the local representative in the Parliament be a passionate advocate for them.

Our forest industries are united behind AFPA SA's strategic plan for the policy measures that will enable us to achieve this, and we will be supporting the candidates who best share this vision and commit to advocating for it within their parties and in the Parliament.

Please complete the below questionnaire so that the tens of thousands of forest industries workers across the state voting in the 17 March 2018 election know where you stand on these important matters.

Advisory Committee

- 1. Do you support the establishment of a permanent Minister's Forest Industries Advisory Council?**
 Yes No
- 2. Will you support the Minister reporting to Parliament annually on progress of the Minister's Forest Industries Advisory Council?**
 Yes No
- 3. Will you work with industry through the Minister's Forest Industry Advisory Council to achieve Government policy initiatives and targets?**
 Yes No

Skilled workers

4. **Will you work with industry to develop a 10-year Forest Industries Skills Plan?**

Yes No

5. **Will you commit \$2 million to support the implementation of the Plan?**

Yes No Need to work with industry to finalise a plan and co-contribution.

Energy

6. **Do you commit to an energy plan which provides reliable, affordable energy for the manufacturing sector and all South Australians?**

Yes No

7. **Will you establish a Renewable Energy Fund to assist forest industries companies to reduce their reliance on high emission energy sources?**

Yes No

8. **Will you commit \$10 million in grants and \$10 million in loans over 4 years to the fund?**

Yes No

9. **Will you provide more attractive feed-in tariffs and incentives for forestry biomass?**

Yes No

10. **Will you include Forest Industries in any Ministerial Advisory Committees dealing with energy policy?**

Yes No In principal support, but would need to check what regulations may need to be changed to facilitate this request.

Promoting the use of timber

11. Will you support the development of a SA Wood Encouragement Policy?

Yes No

12. Would you develop a procurement weighting for renewable and low carbon emission timber products?

Yes No Yes in principal support, but would need to check if it is permissible under the Procurement Act.

R&D

13. Will you commit a second round of \$2 million over four years to support the growth of the Mount Gambier hub of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation?

Yes No

Bushfire mitigation

14. Will you commit to improving cross border fire prevention and mitigation by supporting private and volunteer fire fighting brigades?

Yes No

15. Will you commit to support research into innovative methods of fire detection and suppression?

Yes No

16. Do you support the development an arson prevention strategy?

Yes No

Supporting plantations

17. Will you provide incentives for new tree plantings for timber and other environmental benefits such as carbon sequestration?

Yes No

18. Will you commit \$2 million to a Softwood Timber Plantation development project between Government, industry and landowners to help identify and assess future investment opportunities in softwood timber plantations and removal of impediments to optimising the existing plantation resource?

Yes No As an Independent candidate I cannot commit to this, however, I would work with industry to achieve it.

Grow domestic timber manufacturing

19. Do you support an SA target of doubling the economic value the domestic timber manufacturing sector by 2050 with a focus on regional SA?

Yes No

20. Will you work with industry to develop a timber domestic manufacturing first policy with the aim of contributing to the SA target?

Yes No

21. Will you commit \$500,000 to investigate impediments to the growth of domestic timber manufacturing by:

- conducting a 5-year review of the *SA Forest Industry Strategy Vision 2050*,
- conducting a 5-year review of the *Blueprint for the Future South Australian Forest and Wood Products Industry (2014-2040)*, and
- reviewing the implementation of initiatives identified in the Cellulose Fibre Chain initiative study undertaken by VTT Technical Resource Centre?

Yes No My policy has committed \$250,000 to the initiative and would seek co-contribution from industry.

Infrastructure

22. Will you work with industry to prioritise infrastructure investments (e.g. roads, bridges, communication etc)?

Yes No

23. Will you commit \$40 million (over 4 years) to improving regional infrastructure in Forest Industries areas (seeking matching Commonwealth funding)?

Yes No Cannot commit to this as an Independent but will work with Government of the day to achieve it.

24. Will you work with Victorian Government agencies to develop collaborative infrastructure standards and projects?

Yes No

25. Will you provide a \$10 million fund for 'last mile' productivity enhancing infrastructure for Forest Industries (eg. power upgrades or heavy vehicle turning lanes)?

Yes No Again it is something that I would support but I cannot commit to it as an Independent.

26. Do you commit to reducing red tape in relation to heavy vehicle movements, in line with other state jurisdictions?

Yes No

Natural resource management and water

27. Do you commit to working with all industries to ensure that any future changes to water usage in the South East is based on sound scientific evidence and is independently verified?

Yes No

28. Prior to implementation of the Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan (LLC WAP) Review, will you work with all industries to assess the economic impact of the review outcomes?

Yes No