



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

Australian Forest Products Association

MEDIA RELEASE

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SA could be home to world-class primary industries hub if forestry research is linked with grains and fisheries moves

South Australia could become globally-recognised as a primary industry research leader if the Federal and State Governments support a proposed National Institute for Forest Products Innovation, according to the SA Branch of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA).

AFPA says today's decision by the Federal Government to relocate Federal Government Research agencies for grains, fisheries and aquaculture to South Australia creates an opportunity to establish South Australia as a leader in primary industry research – if investment in forestry research is added in.

AFPA noted the Government's rationale in locating Research and Development close to source industries. "This fits well with AFPA's proposal for a National Institute for Forest Products Innovation, which would have research hubs in several regional areas," said Clare Scriven, AFPA's South Australian State Manager.

"We have been urging Federal and State Governments to establish a national forestry research Institute, and South Australia, and Mount Gambier in particular, would be an obvious choice as a key hub, with its solid forest industries base and existing leading expertise in tree breeding research," Ms Scriven said.

"Renewable timber and wood-fibre based products and green manufacturing of new generation bio-products are the way of the future. Green, advanced manufacturing has huge potential to contribute positively to global environmental goals as well as providing a source of future jobs and economic growth."

"Investment in Research and Development today will enable Australia to match global competitors and develop new products and new markets into the future. South Australia could become globally-recognised as a primary industry research leader if the Federal and State governments support a proposed National Institute for Forest Products Innovation in addition to the other research centres which will be opening here," Ms Scriven said.

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

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