

## Media Release

29 April 2022

### **AFPA welcomes Commonwealth grant funding for Maryvale paper mill**

The Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) has welcomed today's announcement of \$48.2 million in grant funding for the Maryvale Energy from Waste project, to be located at Opal Australian Paper's Maryvale Mill, in Victoria.

AFPA Chief Executive Officer Ross Hampton said the grant, through the Federal Government's Modern Manufacturing Initiative (MMI) was an acknowledgement of the bright future for Australia's pulp, paper and fibre packaging industries, and recognition of the opportunities for our advanced manufacturing facilities to accelerate decarbonisation and drive circular economy outcomes.

"The Maryvale Energy from Waste facility will recover valuable energy from 325,000 tonnes of material that would otherwise be sent to landfill every year. It provides a sustainable and efficient waste management solution and reduces greenhouse gas emissions," Ross Hampton said.

"We congratulate the consortium partners including Opal Australian Paper, Veolia and Masdar Tribe Australia on their success, and welcome this important contribution from the Australian Government.

"We also acknowledge and thank the Member for Gippsland, the Hon Darren Chester for his ongoing support of the forest industries supply chain."

The project will involve a total investment of more than \$600 million, creating more than 500 jobs per annum during construction and support 450 Victorian jobs including flow-on once operational. Construction is targeted to commence in 2022 with the facility to start operations in late 2025.

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**Media Contact:**

Joe Prevedello - AFPA Communications Director  
(m) 0491 205 633 (e) [joe.prevedello@ausfpa.com.au](mailto:joe.prevedello@ausfpa.com.au)

