

Friday, 24 August 2007

MEDIA RELEASE



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WORLDS WINE CAPITAL ALSO A HOME TO MAJOR FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

Following claims that the proposed Bell Bay pulp mill could impact upon the Tamar Valley's valued wineries Timber Communities Australia conducted its own research looking at the economic make up of other major wine producing regions.

"That research commenced with what TCA saw as the top of the tree in wine producing regions; being the Bordeaux region in South West France, The region is promoted as the *Fine Wine Capital of the World* and our findings were quite amazing in light of what's being claimed here." Barry Chipman Tasmanian State Manager Timber Communities Australia said today

The Bordeaux region produces 800 million litres of the highest quality wine annually; the region also attracts 3 million tourists annually.

Along side of this regions, world leading fine wine and tourist industry is a very diverse "*cultivated forest*" industry producing, Kraft pulp (Smurfit Kappa Cellulose de Pin pulp mill) glazed Kraft paper, Liner Kraft paper, Fluff pulp, and the full range of sawn timber products. (Including many wine crates) This wood products industry generates 2.5 billion EUR annually.

The Bordeaux region is also internationally recognised as a major scientific and technical centre for wood, product research including a major focus upon pulp and paper in particular ECF technology, the centre employs 200 researchers.

Then next door in the neighbouring South East is another major fine wine and tourist region of Provence, and within the region surrounded by fine wine vineyards, is the Tarscon-sur-Rhone ECF pulp mill. (This is the same technology as the proposed Bell Bay pulp mill.)

Upon learning how, French wine producers and wood and paper products producers appear to prosper in harmony with each other, it is hoped that this can also translate to the Tamar Valley.

Perhaps those that seem to have doubts about this could, just as a starter follow TCA's lead and "Google" *Bordeaux* then follow up with *ECF pulp mills Bordeaux France*.

Tasmania should not be left behind by the French we too can be a world leader in demonstrating harmony between all industries. Mr Chipman concluded

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