



**Timber Communities Australia**  
**Tasmanian State Office**  
PO Box 172 Campania Tas 7026  
Phone: 03 6260 4442  
Mobile: 0417 013 336  
Email: [barry.chipman.tca.org.au](mailto:barry.chipman.tca.org.au)  
[Http://www.tca.org.au](http://www.tca.org.au)

A.B.N. 33 008 665 736

Thursday, 25 June 2009

## **Media Release**

### **Timber Families welcomes Federal Governments Ministerial Statement; *Preparing our Forest Industries for the Future***

Tasmania's timber dependent families welcome yesterday's release by Minister Burke of the Federal Governments Ministerial Statement, *Preparing our forest industries for the future*.

"With all the difficulties of the present world wide economic down turn, it is vitally important for timber families to know they have the support of the Federal Government." Timber Communities Australian Tasmanian State Manager Barry Chipman said today

"Timber families will now gain great confidence from the knowledge that the Federal Government has reaffirmed its commitment to the National Forest Policy Statement (which underpins the RFA process)".

"It is also very reassuring for timber families that the Federal Government has reaffirmed, that Tasmania has achieved the balance between reserving conservation values and productive forest management through the RFA process."

"Tasmanian timber families also welcome the importance Minister Burke has placed upon continuing to advance valued adding opportunities across all sectors of our forest and wood based industries, including the development of the Bell Bay pulp mill."

"It is also very reassuring for timber families to know that the Federal Government holds a clear understanding of the important role our forest industries plays in helping to maintaining the social and economic well being of rural communities."

"This important ministerial statement provides a very welcomed reassurance that there is a future for families who work in or depend upon the continued sustainable management of our forest and tree farm estate"

Minister Burke is to be thanked for providing this vitally important confidence boost to Tasmanian timber families". Mr Chipman concluded.  
Ends

For more information contact Barry Chipman 03 62604442 or 0417 013336