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Timber Families welcome Full Federal Court support of Bell Bay Pulp Mill Approval

Tasmanian working families that depend on adding value to our plantation and regrowth timber resource welcome the Full Federal Court Decision to dismiss the latest legal challenge against the Bell Bay pulp mill.

This failed legal action against Environment Minister Peter Garrett was taken by a group of lawyer activists from Victoria in a blatant attempt to undermine the job creating Bell Bay pulp mill and its approval process.

The Bell Bay pulp mill has been subjected to a long term campaign of misinformation and legal challenge which has been tearing at the heart of working families looking for the mill to secure their community well being.

“We always believed this legal challenge was flawed and its dismissal clears the way for investment in the job creating project.” said **Barry Chipman Tasmanian State Manager of Timber Communities Australia.**

“With the present global financial crisis all we hear is job losses across all industries, but now we finally have some good news.”

“The Federal Court decision means we have this terrific project in our State waiting to start. The court rejection of all grounds of appeal is of great benefit to thousands of people.”

The Full Court rejected all the Lawyers for Forest arguments, many of which are similar to submissions made to alter the EPBC Act in a bid to undermine the conservation balance achieved by the Regional Forest Agreement process.

“Our families and communities depend on continued adding value investments in our timber industry. We are proud of our industry and will not have continued adding value opportunities destroyed by a bunch of rich lawyers in Victoria.”

“As confirmed by this Full Court dismissal, the Bell Bay pulp mill once built will not have an adverse impact on the environment. It will not be polluting. TCA wouldn't support it if it did. It will be built using the highest possible technology and will meet the highest environmental regulations in the world,” Mr. Chipman concluded.

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