

Media Release

3 March 2010



**Timber Communities Australia
Limited**

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Timber Communities Australia welcomes Liberal's support to Tasmanian timber families.

Tasmanian timber dependent communities welcome the Liberal Leader Will Hodgman's announcement that a Liberal government will invest \$7 million to support our sustainable forest industry and provide opportunities for long term employment.

Following a over night study of the Liberal policy, TCA members applaud the complete policy package as providing a solid path way forward for the new forest industry growth plan.

"Key components of the Liberal policy are the recognition of the social and economic importance of our renewable forest industry to region communities and committing to correct the misinformation damage created by radical anti forestry activists." **Barry Chipman**, Tasmania State Manager of Timber Communities Australia said today.

TCA is also very pleased that the Liberal policy places great importance upon promoting the sustainable nature of Tasmania's forest industry here and inter-state and the value of extending the chain of custody certification process.

"Also welcomed is the announcement that the Liberals strongly believe that the current Regional Forest Agreement and Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement provides the right balance between jobs and conservation and the commitment to extend the RFA into an ever green agreement, which will greatly enhancing the long term social, economic and environmental well being for timber families, this being never more important than at present difficult period".

"The allocation of \$1.2 million assistance to timber harvesting families is also vitally important (TCA also applauds the state government for enacting the caretaker provisions to make this funding available immediately)"

"The Liberal policy builds on the bipartisan support for the RFA at both State and Federal levels. This bipartisan support is vitally important in providing the security needed for timber families to work thought the present economic difficulties." Mr. Chipman concluded.

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For more information contact Barry Chipman on 03 6260 4442 or 0417 013 336