

Friday, 3 December 2010

VAFI welcomes Coalition Government

The peak representative body for the Victorian timber industry, the Victorian Association of Forest Industries (VAFI), welcomed the announcement of the new Coalition Ministry.

VAFI CEO Philip Dalidakis said the Victorian timber industry had developed a strong working relationship with both Coalition parties and believed the new Ministers supported sustainable forestry and its 24,000 jobs.

“During the election both the Liberal and National Party leadership made strong statements supporting the future for forestry in Victoria,” Mr Dalidakis said.

“They have promised to ensure a secure supply of timber; essential for the future of the industry.”

Mr Dalidakis said such support was critical for those communities that heavily relied upon forestry for employment opportunities.

“Towns such as Heywood, Orbost and Cann River rely on forest industries for a large proportion of their jobs,” he said.

“Without the industry, these towns would be much poorer.

“It is gratifying to know Victorians have voted for a government that will implement balanced policies for forestry.”

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