

## INTRODUCING TIMBER NSW NSW Forest Products Association changes name to Timber NSW

**Sydney, 4 September 2014:** The NSW Forest Products Association announced today that it will change its name to Timber NSW effective from 10 October 2014.

For an organisation which has represented New South Wales hardwood timber producers since 1906, the name change marks a significant strategic shift. Membership of Timber NSW will now be open to all New South Wales timber producers, whether hardwood, softwood, native grown or plantation. From Eden to Kyogle and inland to Dubbo, the New South Wales timber industry as a whole adds \$1 billion annually to the state's GDP.

"The timber industry in New South Wales will now speak with one voice," said Timber NSW Chairman Andrew Hurford. "Despite our diversity, timber producers in New South Wales share a common goal: to foster an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable timber industry.

"The timber industry is vitally concerned with maintaining the long term health and ecology of our native forests and plantations, developing our role in reducing Australia's carbon footprint and securing long term employment for regional New South Wales. As Timber NSW, we will bring the industry together with government and stakeholders to address these important, overarching issues."

Alongside the name change, Timber NSW will launch a new logo, website and outreach materials, working effectively with government to inform policy development, communicating with stakeholders and educating the public about the role of sustainable forestry in the management of NSW's native forests and National Parks.

"For most people, the distinction between hardwood and softwood is not a major focus," said Timber NSW General Manager Maree McCaskill. "What's important is that the timber industry as a whole charts a sustainable, innovative course and remains a major regional employer in New South Wales. Under the new Timber NSW banner, we look forward to working with our state and federal counterparts to meet the challenges ahead."

**ENDS** 

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