

Media Release

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Wood fibre sector leads the way in waste management

Maryvale Energy from Waste project secures \$48.2M grant

The Victorian Forest Products Association (VFPA) congratulates Opal on the Federal Government grant of \$48m it received towards its Maryvale "Energy from Waste" project, Deb Kerr, CEO of the Victorian Forest Products Association (VFPA) said.

The Hon Darren Chester MP, Member for Gippsland confirmed the grant through the Australian Government's Modern Manufacturing Initiative (MMI) <u>last Friday</u> at Opal Australian Paper's Maryvale Mill, where the new facility will be built.

"This project is another great example of how the wood fibre sector leads the way to a better future. As an industry, forestry is already carbon neutral, and wood is 100% renewable. The pulp, paper and fibre packaging sector is now going the next step in contributing to a circular economy", said Ms Kerr.

The Maryvale project will bring state-of-the-art alternative energy technology to Gippsland. It will help divert waste from landfill, reduce emissions and deliver a range of social benefits.

"Technology and innovation are at the forefront of our efforts, while keeping the environment in mind. It is encouraging to see that the Federal Government supports regional manufacturing and positive environmental outcomes. Two boxes that the wood and wood fibre sector in Victoria ticks," Ms Kerr concluded.

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About

The Victorian Forest Products Association (VFPA) represents all elements of the value chain from sustainable harvesting of plantations and multiple-use natural forest resources. VFPA is a policy development and advocacy group that represents the interests of Victoria's sustainable forestry. We collaborate strongly with other industry bodies to ensure the best outcomes for forestry in general and our members more specifically. Our charter provides autonomy to manage state issues. We collaborate with the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) on any issues that transcend state borders and have national implications.



