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## Media Release

Date: 26 October 2021

### **Change to the Emissions Reduction Fund needed for NSW to grow our timber plantations**

The Australian Forest Products Association NSW (AFPA NSW) says the Federal Government should remove barriers in the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) currently excluding the timber plantation regions of Oberon/Bathurst and Eden/Bombala from the carbon market. These barriers have been removed for forestry regions in Victoria and Tasmania today.

“AFPA NSW welcomes the Federal Government’s announcement which could see 100 million new trees in Victoria and Tasmania eligible for carbon offset payments under the ERF, and we urge the Government to remove this barrier for the remainder of NSW as soon as possible,” AFPA NSW CEO Sue Grau said today.

“Earlier this year AFPA NSW strongly welcomed the Federal Government’s removal of these barriers for the state’s South West Slopes and North Coast forestry regions. We urge the Government to extend this measure to Central West and South-East NSW, so farmers and landholders can participate in the ERF and contribute to Australia’s climate change mitigation.”

Ms Grau said removing these barriers for the remaining NSW forestry regions would ensure a level playing field for all timber producing regions and unlocks potential for 60 million new trees.

“Growing our timber plantations will help NSW supply housing timber for future generations, support regional manufacturing jobs and meet its ambitious carbon emission reduction targets,” concluded Ms Grau.

**ENDS**

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