

MEDIA RELEASE

February 20, 2017

Wharf facility a Major Project

The proposed export facility at Smith Bay has been declared a Major Project by Minister for Planning John Rau.

Kangaroo Island Plantation Timbers lodged its application for the status under Section 46 of the *Development Act* and KIPT managing director John Sergeant said he was pleased the minister had decided this was the appropriate development assessment pathway.

The proposed \$25 to \$30 million facility includes a jetty about 200m long and a floating pontoon as well as land works to store and manage timber products from the Island's 15,000 hectares of pine and bluegum.

“This development pathway provides for rigorous environmental assessment and extensive public consultation. This is a significant infrastructure project for the State of South Australia, the Kangaroo Island community and Kangaroo Island Plantation Timbers. We thank Minister Rau for endorsing the view that the major projects development assessment pathway is appropriate for the Smith Bay wharf project,” Mr Sergeant said. “However, we recognise that the Minister's declaration is only the first stage in securing development consent and acknowledge that the declaration does not represent an endorsement of the project's merits.”

He said the deep-water wharf would be the catalyst to a sustainable, profitable plantation forestry industry on Kangaroo Island, which would bring transformative economic and social benefits.

“We estimate that the project provides an ongoing boost to the State economy of more than \$100 million annually, along with significant increases in permanent, full-time employment and population growth on Kangaroo Island itself.

“The Company now looks forward to an orderly, timely, evidence-based development assessment process and will meet its obligations fully and professionally,” Mr Sergeant said.

“The process provides for transparency and extensive public consultation and will provide opportunities for all interested stakeholders to comment on the proposed Smith Bay wharf.”

The Development Assessment Commission is expected to issue its guidelines for the project and announce the public consultation period soon.



Meanwhile, the company has commissioned more studies to add to the ones already announced. These reports will be included in an Environmental Impact Statement.

The new studies are:

- Water quality monitoring
- Coastal process modelling
- Seabed drill sampling
- Whale strike likelihood modelling
- Indigenous heritage assessment
- Maritime heritage assessment

For more information go to www.kipt.com.au.