

MEDIA RELEASE



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WORLD-CLASS BELL BAY PULP MILL UNVEILED

Gunns Limited has today unveiled a photomontage of its proposed Bell Bay Pulp Mill following extensive consultation with international design and engineering experts.

Many unique features have been incorporated into the design to ensure world's best environmental, economic and social practice, as well as to blend the pulp mill with the natural surroundings.

Green cladding on structures, a wood fibre conveyor that blends into the background, a single stack and the concentration of buildings are some of the leading design elements.

Gunns Limited Executive Chairman John Gay said the pulp mill would feature the most advanced systems in the world to manage effluent, odour, atmospheric emissions and green energy production.

"The three-level odour management system will ensure any odorous gases are captured and burnt in the recovery boiler, the power boiler or the dedicated non-condensable gases (NCG) incinerator, ensuring smell is not emitted even during start ups and shut downs," Mr Gay said.

"The best available technology for effluent management will also be utilised, with all pulp mill effluent to go through primary and secondary treatment. The processed water will be so clean that fish can breed in it."

Other leading features of the Bell Bay Pulp Mill include:

- Only one stack will be constructed, compared to three or four stacks on most modern pulp mills
- The stack will be 100-130 metres high, compared to the Tippogoree Hills standing 260 metres, ensuring no skyline impact
- Floor channels, bunded walls, advanced drainage and computerised monitoring will ensure all processed waters are caught, managed and recycled
- Green energy will be produced to power the mill, as well as to feed into the grid
- 30 megawatts of power will be produced for the Tasmanian grid – sufficient for all of Launceston's residential homes – as well as enough to power the mill

International forestry consultants Jaakko Poyry said there was no doubt the Bell Bay Pulp Mill would be an international leader in terms of efficiency, safety, cleanliness, control of odour, noise and effluent, as well as green energy production.

Jaakko Poyry Pulp Technology Division Vice President Tuomo Niemi, who has been based in Tasmania for the past five months, said he had no doubt that Bell Bay would be the best designed mill in the world.

“Our team of experts has travelled the world examining the latest and greenest pulp mills and we will bring the best of the best – as well as several new features – to Tasmania,” Mr Niemi said.

“In terms of power, gas, road, rail, deepwater ports, wood supply and the existing chip mill, this is an ideal site for a clean and green pulp mill.”

The existing infrastructure also makes it easy to employ skilled and motivated people for mill operations.

The site also features a new deepwater port and a 50,000-tonne pulp bale storage facility from where the 800,000 tonnes of pulp will be exported.

Mr Gay said Gunns Limited was continuing its detailed data collection and analysis for its Integrated Impact Statement, which is expected to be completed and handed to the Resource Planning and Development Commission by September/October.

High resolution images of the proposed mill can be downloaded from the website: www.gunnspulpmill.com.au

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