

Friday 20 February 2009

## VicForests commences salvage program

Today the State Treasurer, John Lenders, joined VicForests' staff to visit fire affected areas in north-east Victoria.

During his visit the Treasurer learnt more about the impact of the recent bushfires, along with the recovery plan underway aimed at salvaging the State's valuable timber assets.

VicForests staff and contractors currently assisting the fire containment effort were also on hand to talk about their experiences over the last fortnight.

The recovery plan will ensure that those communities who rely on the timber industry for employment get back on their feet as soon as possible.

John Lenders said, "The recent bushfires have affected everyone across Victoria, and our thoughts have been with all of those who have lost loved ones, homes and businesses during this tragic time.

"It has been very encouraging to see the positive steps being made to recommence timber supply and rebuild the area, and to witness the critical role that the timber industry plays in the fire-fighting effort."

For further information about VicForests, or to find out more about the organisation's bushfire recovery plan, visit the website at [www.vicforests.com.au](http://www.vicforests.com.au) or call 03 9608 9500.

### Notes to editors

For further information please contact Cameron MacDonald on 03 9608 9533 or [cameron.macdonald@vicforests.com.au](mailto:cameron.macdonald@vicforests.com.au)