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## **VicForests visit by Commissioner highlights sustainability**

Victoria's Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Kate Auty, has visited VicForests' operations as part of a tour across regional Victoria.

VicForests' Acting CEO, Robert Green, said the Commissioner gained a first hand experience of various aspects of forestry including the regeneration of harvested areas.

"VicForests was thrilled the Commissioner took the time to inspect our operations and discuss these in detail," Mr Green said

"This opportunity allowed VicForests to highlight how our State forests are managed to achieve a range of social, economic and environmental outcomes including timber production.

"The tour included a visit to one of VicForests' seed storage facilities where seeds are kept before they are used to regrow harvested forests.

"The active regeneration of harvested areas is a key component of VicForests' operations, ensuring that our forests are regrown and can be utilised by future generations," he said.

Mr Green said the visit gave the Commissioner an insight into the forest management cycle.

"We were able to show the Commissioner various examples of different forest management practices and forests at different stages of the harvesting cycle," he said.

"This included recently harvested areas that were being prepared for regeneration, stands which had been selectively harvested and areas which have regrown following harvesting operations.

"VicForests looks forward to continuing to provide the Commissioner with regular updates regarding our harvesting and regeneration operations.

"Victoria's sustainable native timber industry harvests and re-grows less than 0.1% of our native forest estate each year.

"The industry plays a vital role in meeting the community demand for wood and wood products as well as providing a range of vital employment opportunities in regional Victoria," Mr Green said.

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