



Australian Paper

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Australian Paper contributing almost \$1 billion to the Australian economy

New research has revealed that Australian Paper's operations generate almost \$1 billion per annum in economic benefits for Australia.

According to a Western Research Institute report¹ released today, the national benefits include \$911 million in gross domestic profit (GDP), \$495 million in household income and 5,786 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs. In addition, the business generates \$1.88 in government revenue per ream of paper produced.

Australian Paper's Chief Operating Officer, Mr Peter Williams, said that this research demonstrated the significant economic contribution made by local paper manufacturing, not only to Australia, but to the regional areas where it is based.

The report confirmed the importance of the company's Maryvale Mill to the Latrobe Valley in Victoria. The Mill contributes \$451 million or 6.8% of the region's economy, and supports 2,387 flow-on jobs or 5.5% of jobs in the Latrobe Valley.

Mr Williams said, "Pleasingly, the report confirmed that the company's recent \$90 million investment in a recycling plant supported 218 jobs in Victoria, of which 82 were in the Latrobe Valley.

"The economic benefits flowing from our operations are particularly important for the Latrobe Valley. As most people know, this region has experienced tough times recently, including the announcement of the closure of the Hazelwood power station. Also, with the current difficulties being experienced by ASH in Heyfield, access to secure wood supplies remains a key issue for both our businesses. "

Mr Williams said, "Australian Paper is pleased to support our positive local contribution to the region. Based on this report, we are encouraging Federal Government departments to re-assess their paper procurement arrangements and support vital and sustainable manufacturing jobs in the Latrobe Valley."

As an incentive to encourage the Government to get on board, and close the local recycling loop, Australian Paper will offer a special rebate for Federal Government departments and agencies that send their shredded wastepaper to Maryvale Mill for recycling and buy it back as premium Australian made 100% recycled office paper.

Mr Williams said, "Australian Paper needs to access more wastepaper to maximise our recycled paper production, and save landfill and carbon emissions. By choosing to dispose of their wastepaper through our state of the art paper recycling plant, Federal Government departments can lead the way to improved environmental outcomes, boosting the Latrobe Valley economy and supporting vital local manufacturing jobs."

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¹ *Economic & Government Revenue Impacts Australian Paper*, Western Research Institute, January 2017