



# Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### \*\*\* High Value Timber Improvement Project in Smithton\*\*\*

- Federal Regional Jobs and Investment Package (RJIP) project enters next stage of construction
- \$735,000 project to provide value-add jobs in the timber industry

The next phase of the Britton Brothers High Value Timber Drying Improvement Project (HVTDIP) has commenced, with the project to provide five full time jobs in the timber industry in Smithton as well as five in construction.

Senator Richard Colbeck congratulated Britton Brothers on the progress of the project, welcoming the boost to jobs in the North West forestry sector.

“Tasmania continues to go from strength to strength with our value-add timber exports,” Senator Colbeck said.

“By partnering with quality businesses like Britton Timbers, the Coalition Government sees huge potential for jobs and investment in our region.”

“In towns like Smithton we have been able to use the RJIP to identify projects that will provide ongoing opportunities for locals.”

The Britton Timbers project will construct a purpose built pre-drying facility, including drying sheds, paved loading and unloading areas, fire mitigation, monitoring and security infrastructure.

The HVTDIP will implement suitable drying schedules to increase the recovery by volume and grade of the higher value Tasmanian timbers processed on site.

“This project is in keeping with the Brand Tasmania strategy of producing high value exports that leverage our reputation for quality and sustainability,” Senator Colbeck said.

“Britton Timbers and the Tasmanian forestry industry are world leaders and we are excited to partner with efforts to value-add by producing more high quality fibre to meet growing global demand.”

“At the last election we promised more jobs for Australians, and partnerships like this have been key to the 1 million jobs we have created since coming to Government.”

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