



24 February 2017

Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

Does Labor Support Unlocking Our Forests and Protecting Jobs, or Not?

In a repeat of Labor's Okehampton Bay fiasco last week, Labor are refusing to state a position on our Plan to unlock production forests and save up to 700 jobs.

The one question for Mr Green is: Does he support the Liberal Government's Bill to unlock our productive forests, or not?

There are three choices:

- 1) Do nothing – up to 700 job losses in regional Tasmania – the Green's position
- 2) Put more subsidies in – money which could otherwise be spent on health and education – is this Labor's position?
- 3) Make more wood available – the Hodgman Government's position

Of course, some in the industry would prefer continued subsidies, but we are not prepared to take that money from our hospitals and our schools.

Our Plan will both end the subsidies and provide the resource security the industry needs to allow it to sustain those 700 jobs and to grow.

A refusal to back our Plan by Labor will show that, once again, Labor are still captive to the Greens.