



MEDIA RELEASE
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Treatment works start up at mill

The Timber Creek timber mill near Parndana has begun limited operations, treating local pine thinnings to produce fence posts for sale on the Island.

Local contactor Brett Haggett has an agreement with the mill's owner - Kangaroo Island Plantation Timbers - to undertake thinning at selected locations in its pine forests and complete post peeling and treatment operations at the mill.

He is also using the harvested timber to produce potato crates for local growers.

KIPT recently applied successfully to the Environment Protection Authority for a wood preservation licence, allowing the mill's treatment equipment to be reactivated. The fence posts are being treated with CCA (copper chrome arsenate). The licence also permits the use of creosote as a preservative agent.

KIPT chairman Paul McKenzie said the Company was pleased to announce part of the mill was now operational.

"This treatment facility is state-of-the-art and we're pleased someone with Brett's skills and knowledge can create a product for local use and also provide employment to another Islander; it's a win-win," Mr McKenzie said.

"A post-peeling and preservation capacity will be important as thinning operations proceed and, when harvesting proper begins, to make use of offcuts as pine logs are cut to standard sizes for export or processing into lumber."

Maintaining and improving its assets is a key aspect of the Board's focus.

"We are working on a program of thinning and maintenance which will add value to our radiate pine assets over the longer term," chairman Paul McKenzie said. "Just recently, we have been able to engage a local contractor to help in our works program."

"We plan to safely burn waste at our Kelly West property on Bark Hut Road and re-plant pine there after weed control in the autumn of 2016," he said.

"Some of our properties have been neglected by previous owners and we plan to make steady progress on improving the value of the timber. We continue to maintain appropriate fencing, fire breaks and feral animal control."