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MEDIA RELEASE

Gunns settles legal case against protestors

Gunns Limited today announced it had agreed to settlement terms in the final four matters in the so-called "Gunns 20" action.

Company Secretary Wayne Chapman said the company had accepted an offer of settlement made by the remaining four defendants in the proceedings, which commenced in 2004.

"This is a commercial decision to avoid the need for a lengthy and expensive court case," he said.

"The settlement involves the payment of a total of \$155,088 towards the legal costs of the defendants, and has the effect of disposing of all remaining claims in the litigation.

"Gunns instituted the proceeding to protect its interests, and those of its employees and contractors, and to enable it to conduct its forestry business without disruption.

"Gunns will not hesitate to continue to approach the courts where necessary to protect its commercial interests and the occupational health and safety of its employees and contractors.

"While Gunns respects the rights of individuals to protest, that must not involve unlawful activities.

"But, as a major contributor to the Australian economy, and the employer of thousands of full-time staff and contractors, Gunns expects that its right to carry on its lawful business will also be respected."

Proceedings against other defendants have been settled either by the defendants paying damages, giving undertakings or by the proceedings being discontinued by Gunns.

Contact

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