

PLANTATION HARVEST RESIDUE BURNING POLICY

1 Purpose

Plantation harvest residue management is a significant impediment to reforestation success within Tasmania. In order to achieve the required standards of reforestation successful strategies must be adopted which are sensitive to avoiding smoke emissions, enhancing forest soil nutrition and maximising carbon storages.

In the past, some plantation establishment operations have utilised high intensity or broadcast burning techniques. The use of high intensity and broadcast burning techniques within Gunns' Tasmanian plantation operations ceased as of February 2011.

This document outlines the policy to be adopted by Gunns Limited from February 2011 onwards.

2 Scope

All plantations managed by Gunns Limited within Tasmania.

3 References

- Gunns Limited Plantations Policy and Procedures Manual.
- www.gunns.com.au

4 Definitions

High Intensity Burning or Broadcast Burning – High temperature burns of scattered slash/fuel over a wide area or within windrows.

Low Intensity Burning – Low temperature burns where fire is restricted to discrete heaps.

5 Procedural Principles

Harvest residues from previous plantations will be managed without the use of broadcast or high intensity burning with strategies such as but not limited to;

- Alterations to residue placement during harvesting operations
- Utilisation of infield chipping in harvesting operations where appropriate
- Utilisation of specialised site preparation machinery which enables effective cultivation within unburnt harvest residues.

As a responsible landowner and forest manager, Gunns Limited will be sensitive to fuel hazards identified by stakeholders and, where appropriate, may utilise low intensity burning on small areas under tightly controlled and transparent processes.

6 Revision History

This document is identified as '*Plantation Harvest Residue Burning Policy*'. A new version will be issued whenever significant changes occur.

| Version | Changes | Date |
|---------------------|----------|--|
| V1.0 | Original | April 2011 |
| Author: | | Jim Wilson |
| Authorisation: | | Greg L'Estrange |
| Signature: | |  |
| Date to be revised: | | April 2012 |