

Media Release



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Farmers join NRMA talks on alternate fuel

The NSW Farmers' Association will join the NRMA Motoring & Services roundtable discussion on alternative fuels and energy sources in Australia, hosted by NRMA Director Mr Graham Blight next month.

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie says the Association looks forward to being involved in this discussion as it continues to closely examine all aspects of alternative fuel sources as well as the opportunities and challenges which this issue has for the Association's Members.

"The roundtable will explore ways to optimise biofuels as part of a mix of alternative fuels and technology for future transport needs, issues of great importance to the farming community," Mr Laurie said.

"We look forward to working further with the NRMA and its Jamison Group on developing new methods for decreasing the country's dependence on fossil fuels by supporting research for renewable energy sources and the development of renewable energy technology advances," he said.

NRMA President Alan Evans and Director Graham Blight launched *The Jamison Group report: A Road Map for Alternative Fuels in Australia: Ending our Dependence on Oil* in July 2008. The Jamison Group comprises four eminent scholars in the fields of energy and transport who were asked to develop a roadmap to guide Australia's transport energy future.

"The Association is very pleased to continue strengthening our ties with the NRMA, and Director Graham Blight through working together on key issues which impact upon the Members of both our organisations," Mr Laurie said.

"A positive recent example was of course our joint relief program *Helping Farming Families*, which gave families affected by the drought 1250 nights of free accommodation available at any one of NRMA's five Holiday Parks.

"The success of this program and the response from the community shows how positively our two organisations can make a difference together," Mr Laurie concluded.

The roundtable discussion will be hosted by NRMA Director Mr Graham Blight on Wednesday 8 October 2008.

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