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MEDIA RELEASE

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Maryvale Planned Annual Shut a Boost to the Latrobe Region

Australian Paper's Maryvale Mill will begin its planned annual shut today, halting production for the next four weeks to allow completion of important maintenance and capital works. Major works planned for the shut are part of a \$200 million, five year capital investment program currently underway at the facility.

Australian Paper General Manager – Manufacturing Adrian Berton said the planned 26 day annual shut would be one of the longest in Australia Paper's 81 year history at the site.

"Over the next four weeks we will be investing \$51 million in upgrading and maintaining key strategic infrastructure underpinning our Maryvale operations," Mr Berton said.

"At peak periods of the shut, more than 1,000 employees and contractors will be on site - almost three times the normal staffing levels. More than 3,500 individual maintenance jobs and 30 capital projects will be completed during the closure, including major works on Recovery Boiler 5, the Lime Kiln and the M4 paper machine. These projects will improve operational efficiency and reliability.

"Over 50 local businesses will be involved in this planned major outage, providing a boost to the region's economy, and generating significant employment opportunities for the Latrobe Valley.

"Zero Harm will be Australian Paper's key focus during the shut, to ensure THINK SAFE, WORK SAFE, HOME SAFE remains front of mind for everyone working at Australian Paper Maryvale."

Key equipment at Maryvale includes three pulp mills, two wastepaper recycling plants and five paper machines. Continued capital reinvestment has seen the Mill grow to a total asset replacement value of more than \$3 billion. \$15 million will be spent on M4, the largest paper machine at Maryvale, producing 225,000 tonnes per annum of high quality board for Australia's booming packaging market.

\$17.5 million will be invested in the R5 Recovery Boiler, a key piece of the power generation infrastructure that makes Australian Paper Maryvale, Victoria's largest producer of renewable baseload energy.

Australian Paper contributes more than \$900 million to Australia's GDP annually and is one of the largest employers in Victoria's Latrobe Valley. It is estimated to support 2,387 direct and flow-on jobs in the region.

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