



QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED

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MEDIA RELEASE

Green Fingers get Working for the Environment

Little green fingers were out in full force at Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) when the Kareeba Scouts planted 700 trees in the refinery's buffer zone land last month.

Working towards gaining their environmental badge, the scouts and joeys took just under two hours to carry out the planting with the assistance of their parents and QAL employee volunteers.

QAL Health, Safety, Environment and Communities Manager Ross Greenhalgh said the Scouts contribution to QAL's annual planting program demonstrated a shared commitment to bettering the local environment.

"The Scouts contribution assisted greatly to achieve our annual tree planting target of 2 100 trees within the buffer zone between the refinery and our neighbours at Barney Point," Mr Greenhalgh said.

"There are now well over 20 000 native species including Acacias, Casuarinas, Eucalyptus, Hibiscus and Melaleuca planted to date and whilst we have a watering system set up to get the trees growing, a good dose of rain would really get them sprouting,"

"QAL remains committed to continue with its long term plan to establish local plants within the buffer zone to create a lush green corridor between the refinery and intertidal area and provide a habitat for local fauna." Mr Greenhalgh said.

The buffer zone which surrounds QAL operations covers more than 2 000 hectares and consists of mostly untouched natural bushland. One of the many key features of the buffer land is one of Gladstone's few remaining untouched intertidal marine plain zones which is home to a variety of birds and wildlife. The planting of a further 2 100 trees is planned for 2010.

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Caption: Kareeba Scout Clare Richter puts her green fingers to good use at QAL.



Caption: Kareeba Scout Matthew Richter gets some tree planting tips from QAL Environmental Specialist Alison Green.

About Queensland Alumina Limited:

Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) commenced operation in March 1967 with an annual production rate of 600 000 tonnes of alumina. Today QAL is one of the world's largest alumina refineries, producing 3.95 million tonnes of the world's best smelter grade alumina per year. With an average workforce of 1050 employees, QAL is one of the region's largest employers and annually contributes approximately \$200 million directly to the local economy.

For further information and copies of images contact:

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