



## Media Release

### Proserpine Mill receives \$2.82 million to make Furfural

Proserpine Mill has received a \$2.82 million boost for developing a manufacturing process for a chemical solvent, Furfural.

The Nationals Federal MP for Dawson, De-Anne Kelly, commended Proserpine Mill for receiving the grant and wished them well with their future endeavours.

"Proserpine Mill is one of only 27 projects across Australia to share in \$34 million of Australian Government Research and Development Start grants," said Mrs Kelly.

"It is an acknowledgement of the hard work and initiative they have shown in their efforts to diversify and add value to the sugar industry and I wish them well with this project.

"I also congratulate the board of Proserpine Mill on receiving for their efforts in securing the grant and developing the project," she said.

It is understood that the company will use the funding to purchase two digesters and a distillation column.

"Successful development of the new manufacturing process will provide a more efficient and lower cost-production method without harmful effluents. It will be a significant improvement over current production methods," said Mrs Kelly.

The company aims to produce on average 50 per cent more Furfural per tonne of input than current methods while reducing effluent rates from 10 to 20 tonnes of effluent per tonne of Furfural produced to zero effluent.

"Again it is a relatively simple idea which, combined with hours of research by the Mill, has the potential to become an important production method," said Mr Kelly.

5 April 2005

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