



REGISTERED OFFICE 28A BRISBANE STREET, LAUNCESTON, TAS 7250

TELEPHONE +61 3 6364 3180 FACSIMILE +61 3 6334 5318



GUNNS PLANTATIONS LIMITED AFSI NO 238701 (Receivers & Managers Appointed) (In Liquidation) (GPL)

A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF GUNNS LIMITED ABN 29 09 478 148 (Receivers & Managers Appointed) (In Liquidation)(Gunns)

# Grower update - 24 May 2016

# This update relates to Gunns Plantations Woodlot Scheme 2003, Option 2 (the Scheme)

(Excludes the Great Southern Schemes and all other GPL Woodlot Schemes)

This communication updates you on:

- 1. No distribution to Growers
- 2. Next steps
- 3. Application of funds
- 4. Source of funds

In conjunction with this update please refer to the updates to Growers dated 29 February 2016 and 23 December 2015 available at:

- www.ppbadvisory.com/creditor-information
- http://www.abl.com.au/gunns/gunns.htm

We are writing to you to provide an update on the estimated returns expected for this Scheme. This update provides detail on the various proceeds and costs applicable to this Scheme.

# 1. No distribution to Growers

We estimate that there will be no distributable funds to Growers as advised in the Explanatory Notice (EN) dated 15 May 2015.

In regards to Gunns Plantations Woodlot Scheme 2003, Option 2 Trees (Scheme Assets), all remaining Scheme Assets are located on Forestry Tasmania (FT) land. As noted in prior Grower Updates, these Scheme Assets were confiscated by FT without compensation. GPL as Responsible Entity (RE) of the Scheme has initiated legal recovery against FT. We will advise Growers if we receive any material funds from the realisation of these Scheme Assets.

The Scheme received additional funds to those previously forecasted outlined in section 4 (Gross Proceeds). However the costs involved in realising the Scheme Assets outweigh the proceeds received, therefore we estimate that no distributable funds will be available to Growers.

A breakdown of the Scheme proceeds and costs is included in Table 1 and further details are provided in sections 3 and 4.

#### Disclaimer

Growers are encouraged to read this update in its entirety before making any decisions concerning their investment. Growers should make their own independent evaluation of the relevance and adequacy of the information contained herein.

PPB Advisory has not considered the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of individual Growers or any other person. Accordingly, this update should not be relied upon as the sole basis for any decision in relation to your investment. Growers should obtain and rely on professional advice from their own tax, legal, accounting and other professional advisers in respect of the Growers' investment objectives, financial position or particular needs.



Table 1: Estimated return

| GPL 2003 - Option 2   | Section Reference | (\$)      |
|---|-------------------|-----------|
| Source of Funds   | 3                 |           |
| Sale Proceeds   |                   | -         |
| Other post-appointment realisations (incl.int)              |                   | -         |
| Pre-appointment custodial account (incl.int)                |                   | 5,632     |
| Total distributable funds                                   |                   | 5,632     |
| Application of Funds  | 2                 |           |
| PPBA costs  | _                 | (124,255) |
| Legal costs   |                   | (31,796)  |
| GPL Office and Other costs                                  |                   | (105,246) |
| Surplus / (deficit) funds after costs                       |                   | (255,665) |
| No. of woodlots in Scheme                                   |                   | 1,998     |
| Estimated return per woodlot (\$)                           |                   | -         |
| Crown undate (47 Con 45) action at all until                |                   |           |
| Grower update (17 Sep 15) estimated return Change in return |                   | -         |

Note, the estimated net return:

- is calculated on the basis of estimated costs, including costs which are yet to be approved by the Court and
  future costs. Those costs may vary. If the actual costs are more than the estimated costs, the net return to
  Growers will reduce. If the actual costs are less than the estimated costs, the net return to Growers will
  increase
- assumes that no liabilities, other than Scheme Costs, are payable from the Sale Proceeds. If there are other liabilities payable, the net return to Growers may reduce
- assumes that the guidance received from the ATO on the GST treatment will allow for a an efficient GST
  payment process and simplified Grower return distribution process. In the event that GST needs to be
  individually remitted to Growers for remittance to the ATO, distribution costs are likely to rise and the net
  return to Growers may reduce.

### 2. Next steps

We will now complete the winding up of the Scheme. Communications will be sent to Growers initiating the winding up of the Scheme in the near future.

At this point in time, as we anticipate there will be no distribution for this Scheme, Link Market Services Limited **won't** be sending out correspondence to you.

We recommend that you seek independent advice in relation to the taxation effect of this outcome.

# 3. Application of funds

There are a number of costs that, subject to an order of the Court, will be deducted from the Gross Proceeds (**Approved Scheme Costs**).

These Approved Scheme Costs include:

- (a) Liquidators' and legal costs\*
- (b) Costs for winding-up of the scheme\*.

These Approved Scheme Costs are payable in priority to any payment to Growers. Scheme Costs which relate to more than one GPL Scheme Option have been allocated between the GPL Scheme Options in accordance with the allocation approved by Court.

<sup>\*</sup>Note a portion of these costs have been estimated and may vary



All Approved Scheme Costs are subject to the review and approval of the Court. All relevant documents in relation to the approval of costs and Court rulings are available on our website:

• www.ppbadvisory.com/creditor-information

For context on the Approved Scheme Costs, Growers will recall that the following key steps have been undertaken to realise the pool of funds from the sale of Scheme assets and resolve competing claims that may have reduced this pool of funds:

| Date                            | Event  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| September 2012 to March<br>2013 | Court protection measures obtained to prevent the termination of Scheme leases whilst the future of the Schemes was investigated following the collapse of the Schemes RE, GPL.  |
| March 2013 to September<br>2013 | An expression of interest campaign to find a new RE for the Scheme. During this time, significant costs were incurred in relation to the ongoing maintenance of Scheme Assets, administration costs, staff wages and the legal, liquidation and other costs of the RE (circa \$4.4m). These costs have been reviewed by the Court and allowed in full. |
| October 2013 to December 2013   | A sale process for the Scheme Assets given a new RE was not found.   |
| October 2014 to March 2016      | Detailed discussions with the ATO and PwC on the treatment of Scheme and RE income tax and GST positions.  |
| March 2013 to March 2016        | Court applications for the review and approval of the GPL Liquidator's costs of managing the Schemes.  |

# 4. Source of funds

The Scheme is a pooled scheme. Accordingly, proceeds received from the sale or harvest of Scheme Assets will benefit the pool of Growers in the Scheme. These proceeds are summarised above in Table 1 (**Distributable Funds**).

However, as the Approved Scheme Costs are greater than the proceeds received from the Scheme Assets, we have estimated that there will be no funds available to distribute to Growers.

These Scheme proceeds arose from:

- i) amounts held in Scheme custodian accounts
- ii) interest paid on Scheme proceeds.

Details of the above Scheme proceeds are outlined in the EN dated 15 May 2015.

# **Further questions?**

If you have any further questions please address them to the following contacts:

| Contact             | Contact Phone Number | Contact Email Address     |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| GPL Client Services | (03) 6364 3180       | gunns@gunnsplantation.com |
| PPB Advisory        | (03) 9269 4160       | gunns@ppbadvisory.com     |