

MEDIA RELEASE



Statement from Moira Shire Council Chair Administrator Dr Graeme Emonson PSM

Council is actively working with the Strathmerton community and stakeholders to plan for and respond to Bega's staged closure of its Strathmerton plant.

Our focus remains clear: to support the affected workers and their families while working to strengthen our community and ensure long-term economic stability. It's critical for us to ensure local jobs are created to replace lost local jobs.

We know this is still a time of uncertainty for the community. We are working closely with the local community to understand and mitigate the impacts that will flow from the closure.

We are meeting weekly with representatives from Regional Development Victoria, Bega and other key agencies to plan a coordinated response and prepare for a staged closure. These discussions are focused on delivering practical outcomes for those impacted, ensuring that resources and supports are appropriately aligned to where and when they're needed the most.

In addition, a dedicated working group has been established to explore opportunities for regional growth. This includes identifying avenues for training, upskilling and reskilling, as well as supporting existing businesses to expand where there is capacity and demand.

While it's still early days, these have all been positive discussions. Council remains fully committed to working in partnership with the community, industry, and government to navigate the impacts of this closure and to identify new pathways for economic development and employment.

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