

# **Australian Dairy Farms Group**

19 March 2018

**ASX Code: AHF** 

## **Advisory on Victorian Fires effect on AHF Personnel and Assets**

- No harm to personnel and families;
- No harm to livestock. Minimal fencing damage on one farm.

**Australian Dairy Farms Group (AHF)** directors provide an advisory note for investors regarding the impact of the serious fire conditions in South West Victoria where the Group's dairy farms and milk processing factory are located.

We are pleased to confirm that despite the threatening grass and bush fires driven by strong winds in the region during the last weekend, all the Group's personnel and their families are safe, our cows are safe, the Camperdown Dairy factory has been unaffected by the fires and only one of our farms received very minor fence damage.

The weekend was a very challenging one for many in Western Victoria. Fierce, out of control fires, as a result of a fire event at nearby Terang Power Station, combined with very high winds, to create several frightening and fast-moving fires. with most of the developments occurring through dark of the night. At the same time there were extensive power outages including on the Group's primary farm group at Brucknell / Ecklin South.

Notwithstanding the adverse circumstances and no power to drive the milking rotaries, the cows still had to be milked so the cows on the Ecklin South farms were walked quietly down internal laneways to Brucknell North where farm managers used the tractor to drive a generator for the twice per day milkings. No milk was lost and power was restored on Sunday night.

Our primary concern was for our staff, their families and the people in the neighbouring communities affected, and it was very sad to hear of other properties and livestock being lost as reported in the news. However, it has been a relief to hear that no lives have been lost.

We thank our Farm Managers, and our staff for staying safe and remaining vigilant. We would also like to thank the Corangamite Shire for their input and provision of safe shelters, and a very special thank you to the emergency services who provided continuous information and particularly the front-line State Emergency Service, the Police and many good men and women of the County Fire Authority, who worked tirelessly to help keep our people and our properties safe.

**ENDS** 

#### **Further Details**

For additional company information or media enquiry matters please contact:

#### Peter Skene

## **Group CEO/ Director**

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## **About Australian Dairy Farms Group**

**Australian Dairy Farms Group (AHF)** was Australia's first ASX listed dairy farmer. Its initial focus was on aggregating high quality dairy farms in Victoria, initially in the South Western region with particular emphasis initially, on the famous Dairy Golden Triangle region of South West Victoria between Warrnambool and Colac south of the Princes Highway to the coast around Port Campbell.

In April 2016 the Group completed the acquisition of Camperdown Dairy Company Pty Ltd - ACN 140 640 606 (Camperdown Dairy) – see announcement on <a href="http://www.adfl.com.au/announcements">http://www.adfl.com.au/announcements</a>.

Camperdown Dairy is a wholly owned subsidiary of AHF. The Group is now a vertically integrated milk producer, processor and product distributor in Australia and for export. Refer to the Group's Strategy Overview release to market on 11 July 2017 for additional information about AHF's immediate and longer term strategic planning. See the above link to ASX announcements or the Group's website for a copy of the Group's Strategy Overview.

**Australian Dairy Farms Group** is listed as a stapled security comprising one fully paid share in **Australian Dairy Farms Limited (the Company)** and one fully paid unit in **Australian Dairy Farms Trust (the Trust).** Within the structure, the Company is the operator and manager of the dairy farm properties, which are leased from the Trust as the registered owner.

## **Disclaimer – Forward Looking Statements**

This announcement may include "forward looking statements" within the meaning of securities laws of applicable jurisdictions. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts but are based on AHF's current expectation, estimates and projections about the industry, in which it operates, and beliefs and assumptions. Forward looking statements may include indications of, and guidance on, future earnings or distributions and financial position and performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of AHF, and its officers, employees, agents, or associates, that may cause actual results to differ materially from any projections and forward-looking statements and the assumptions on which those statements are based. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward looking statements and AHF assumes no obligation to update such information.