

Biography

Mick Stephens – Chief Executive Officer

Mick Stephens is the Chief Executive Officer for Timber Queensland (TQ), the peak state industry body for the forest and timber industry.

Mick is an experienced executive leader in research, policy and advocacy and has served the interests of the forest industries for many years and was previously the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), the peak national body for the forest, wood and paper products industry.

He is a resource economist with over 30 years' experience in forestry and regional economic policy including public sector roles in ABARES, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics and CSIRO.

From 2003 to 2006 he was Deputy Administrator of the Australian external territory of Norfolk Island, involved in land and public administration.

His research and policy focus has included plantation development and sustainable forest management, rangelands, agroforestry, renewable energy, timber standards, regional development, forest products manufacturing, northern beef production, fisheries and climate change policy. From 1998 to 2000 he worked on forestry climate change mitigation with the Canadian Forest Service in Ottawa.

Mick has considerable experience in the interface between research and policy and translating research and development into tangible industry development outcomes and the setting of priority directions for future growth.

In 2008 he was the recipient of a Churchill Fellowship to look into agroforestry practices in North America and Europe, and in 2010 received a Gottstein Fellowship to investigate active management for forest fire prevention and other landscape benefits in the United States and Canada.

He has produced numerous articles and scientific papers on forestry land management and the timber industry. He is a Director of Forestry Australia, an Associate Director with First Super and sits on a number of Queensland Government advisory bodies.

Mick has a degree in economics, post-graduate qualifications in environmental science and a Master of Forestry from the Australian National University.

