

To whom it may concern,

I am employed by Ashford Hemp Industries, in Ashford, NSW. I purchased 100 acres before that time with the intention to assist in growing Hemp for the budding building industry that is utilising the hemp hurd with a lime binder.

I was not aware of anyone in the area growing or processing hemp till I met the owners of AHI and began working for them some years back with the intent to learn more about growing, harvesting and processing Hemp so that I may implement the knowledge once I am completed in preparing the 100 acres for farming and have completed licencing (which I think is not necessary for Hemp as it is for the female cannabis plant, as Hemp is male and produces next to zero in THC though is still high in CBD).

As an individual who sees the potential of Hemp from reading books that dispelled the propaganda myths with facts from history, which include a number of uses and inventions like Henry Ford's vehicle which was built predominantly with Hemp materials and had body work that was capable of being hit with a sledge hammer and not leaving a dent.

The reintroduction of Hemp will most likely see a decline and possible fall of other industries which utilise materials which would be redirected for other manufacturing or become obsolete. This can be offset by the variety of manufacturing options that hemp provides, where people can transition into new employment with their current skills set and minimal training.

One example of this is the building industry, where a transition to Hempcrete can be built in lock step with lime mines (if necessary to supply the binder if there is a shortfall). This can also be linked to a sustainable agroforestry industry, growing the framework that is encased in the hempcrete which is fireproof. Locking in carbon and reducing the necessity to create more materials to rebuild destroyed homes is a double win.

A social housing program could be created that ensures the development of the infrastructure to transition to a new standard in building that bridges country communities with city development. We can literally grow our way out of homelessness and poverty. Hemp can even assist in helping clothe people, feed people, provide necessities such as toilet paper, and assist manufacturing medical products (bandages/plastics).

My focus is farming hemp to supply for producing hurd for building, and having pine on my land. I would like to cultivate pine for (resin, and) housing and also grow hemp for housing, I aim to develop the by-product of bast into cloth to blend with wool for natural warm clothing.

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*The opportunities for the development of a hemp industry in Australia, with particular reference to:*

*a. the potential contribution of an industrial hemp industry to;*

*(i) Australian farming systems, including compatibility with existing agricultural practices, soil health and water usage/conservation,*

**Hemp can be part of a soil building program for farmers to recondition old paddocks that have been overworked and need amendment, while having a crop that is guaranteed to sell into a growing diverse industry.**

**Farmers can enter this into rotation and collectively there will be enough material grown to provide processors work and manufacturing will have several parts of the plant to work with.**

**No herbicides, fungicides or pesticides needed, no artificial fertilisers needed, and allowing the plant to grow as naturally as possible can help identify areas in the soil which are healthy and growing tall plants, and areas which the plants struggle so a more targeted investigation can follow to assist in amending soil health.**

**Less runoff of poisons as a result of hemp being grown next to our waterways is also a big plus, and animal health will improve as a result also.**

*(ii) Australian manufacturing, including the production of textiles, bio-based plastics, health and food products,*

**Centrelink assistance for those working in the industry which isn't at full time production.**

**Henry Ford created a car predominantly from Hemp materials (including the body parts which were capable of being hit with a sledge hammer and leaving no dent or mark.**

**Building of housing (especially a social housing program could be the foundation of creating the diverse hemp industry and assist in solving the housing crisis, while offering protection from fires, mold and other health hazards.**

**Clothing, towels, toilet paper, many necessities can be created from hemp and are more sustainable to produce and less hazardous as a waste. Oil for food and health products, soaps, even a biodiesel fuel can be created!**

*(iii) the circular economy, including biodegradable materials and waste reduction,*

**As I mentioned, I personally am aiming to grow hemp for hurd building material and bast fibre for clothing, the dust/fines will be distributed back to the soil or added to compost for assisting soil/plant/animal health.**

**Animal fodder is an option, animal bedding also.**

*(iv) the Australian construction industry, including the use of hemp-based materials and barriers to their adoption, and*

**Social housing initiatives could provide a basis for offering farmers an opportunity to grow a crop that assists soil reconditioning and health which can also assist in providing an income while doing so. Transport and logistics, lime mining for binder mix, employees for processing, engineers for building process machines, the industries that supply materials to build infrastructure for processing and manufacturing.**

*(v) Australia's economy, including, but not limited to, job creation, export opportunities and regional development;*

**Hemp can be the plant which can re-unite the nation, and assist us in solving many of the problems we face. Farmers, producers, manufacturers, miners, builders, many industries can get a boost by having a cheap and accessible building material that is locally grown and supplied to avoid delays in construction times and ensure completion of houses adding to the supply of affordable housing in Australia.**

**Townships near lime deposits can become hubs for the building materials needed while other regions not close to lime can focus on the other diverse range of products.**

**Decentralising the material will give greater access at less cost within the supply chain, creating a stable source of material to supply producers and manufacturers. FIREPROOF HOMES will make living in regional areas safer for people and reduce stress for firefighters, remove the need to retardant poison to be used!**

**No doubt exports will begin once the industry is developed opening further opportunities, the focus should be here first, not supplying material abroad for a few extra dollars creating a shortfall and problems here.**

*b. research and development required to harness the full potential of the hemp industry;*

**Schools and Universities, CSIRO. Keep the information public so that there can be no monopolies! May the best products succeed.**

*c. regulations related to hemp production, sale and distribution to domestic and export markets; and*

**Remove licensing from HEMP, only the female cannabis plants should be licensed and monitored for public safety, if there is to be a fee, a simple fee to register is all that is needed. Police have all they need to identify criminals and take action accordingly, checks again should be reserved for the female cannabis plant which**

**produces high contents of THC (except in natural home grown personal use (up to 5 plants), any commercially grown cannabis with high THC content should be regulated.**

**Excessive regulation is both a waste of time and resources which can be better allocated.**

*d. any other related matters.*

**Free the Hemp Plant for Victory once more!**

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Daniel Blogg  
Waterhole Exchange