

# MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **THOMAS FOODS, HILLGROVE**

### **JOIN FORCES ON JOBS**

Thomas Foods International and publicly listed copper and gold producer, Hillgrove Resources are joining forces to create an innovative solution to employment issues facing both organisations.

Following discussions between the two companies, Hillgrove Resources will begin a recruitment drive for TFI employees affected by the fire at Murray Bridge to take up positions at the nearby Kanmantoo copper mine.

The Kanmantoo open pit mine has approximately two years of surface mining in its existing operations and is currently reviewing underground development potential which may extend mine life.

As TFI progresses through the rebuild of its processing plant, employees who accept positions at Hillgrove can look at opportunities to return to their previous work at TFI.

TFI's Group Human Resources Manager, Morna Young, said the arrangement between TFI and Hillgrove was an innovative response to the needs of both companies and the affected employees.

"TFI is committed to finding employment solutions for staff affected by the Murray Bridge plant fire," she said.

"At the same time, Hillgrove has a focus on local Adelaide Hills employment and is looking for reliable people to work at its Kanmantoo mine.

"This informal arrangement will benefit both companies as well as providing TFI employees the opportunity to learn new skills in the mining sector, gain full time employment and continue to live in the Murray Bridge area."

Ms Young said any Murray Bridge TFI employee could apply to work at Hillgrove.

Hillgrove Resources General Manager, Lachlan Wallace, said Hillgrove needed reliable locals who were interested in working at the mine and would provide the necessary skills training.

"Positions being offered include plant operators through to blast crew members," he said.

"Workers will be hired under standard mining conditions, which include a two week on, one week off roster covering two 12-hour shifts."



Ms Young said Hillgrove was one of a number of companies in the Murray Bridge area which had offered assistance to TFI since the fire on January 3.

“Ever since the fire, TFI’s workforce has been our focus and we thank all of the local businesses who have extended support to our employees,” she said.

TFI employees interested in taking up positions with Hillgrove should contact Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland (RDAMR) on 8535 7170 or at 137 Adelaide Road Murray Bridge to make an appointment to explore this and other job opportunities.

“This is a fantastic collaborative effort by TFI and Hillgrove in support of TFI’s Murray Bridge workforce,” RDAMR CEO Jo Podoliak said.

“It’s an opportunity for TFI workers to gain experience in a new industry and develop their skills while remaining close to home.

“As one door closes, another opens and I encourage TFI workers to consider how they can benefit from the innovative solutions being developed in our region.”

TFI continues to secure redeployment opportunities for workers at its Lobethal and Tamworth sites, as well as at TFI-owned meat wholesaler Holco.

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