

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Tuesday, 8 December, 2015

\$1 million grant to assist Beerenberg expansion to create 19 jobs

A multi-million dollar expansion of South Australia's Beerenberg Farm in Hahndorf will create 19 jobs and ensure the company's future growth and expansion into national and international markets.

Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock today announced a \$1 million State Government Regional Development Fund grant towards the second stage of the iconic company's expansion project.

"Beerenberg's expansion is a significant three stage project to extend its existing manufacturing area and build a new warehouse, office, loading bay, kitchen, innovation space and bottling hall," Mr Brock said.

"This significant expansion will allow the company to improve its production capacity and upgrade production to state-of-the-art automated manufacturing which will increase the company's output and streamline its operations.

"The \$8 million second stage of the expansion will create 19 ongoing full time positions, as well as 35 jobs during construction.

"Beerenberg's increased production capability will flow on to local fruit producers and apiarists who supply produce to the company.

"This project will help the popular South Australian company thrive and support the State Government's economic priorities of 'Premium food and Wine produced in our clean environment and exported to the world', and 'Growth through innovation'."

Beerenberg's Managing Director, Mr Anthony Paech said the company's expansion was important in meeting its long-term goals.

"The RDF grant will enable us to complete the second stage of our expansion earlier, which includes the internal completion of the manufacturing kitchen, quality and innovation space and bottling hall, plus supporting infrastructure," Mr Paech said.

"Our ultimate goal is to double our sales by 2020. This simply will not be possible without expanding our facilities to give us the space to make this happen.

"As well as increasing our production, we'll also have room to warehouse all of our stock on-site, creating greater efficiencies.

“Growing our business will allow us to re-invest back into product development and staff training and development giving us greater scope for growth and improvement,” Mr Paech said.

Beerenberg’s Hahndorf site includes a 100 hectare strawberry farm, a food factory, a tourist attraction with a farm shop and a ‘pick your own strawberries’ facility.

The company employs 50 full time staff, as well as a large number of casual workers during the farm harvesting seasons.

The State Government’s Regional Development Fund drives economic growth and productivity by offering grants to boost investment in regional infrastructure and create jobs and new opportunities for regional South Australia.

The third round of the Regional Development Fund is currently open for applications until Friday 15 January 2016.

For more information visit www.pir.sa.gov.au/rdf