

DETMOLD AND D'ARENBERG SET SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

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Two of the state's renowned family brands have unveiled new sustainability targets as the decarbonisation push across industries accelerates.

McLaren Vale wine company d'Arenberg has set the goal of becoming net zero by 2035, in line with targets set for wine growers and producers by industry group Australian Grape & Wine.

And packaging company Detmold has outlined six sustainability objectives designed to reduce its emissions, including by keeping waste out of landfill and adopting a greater use of renewable energy.

The company has a goal of reaching its "positive impact targets" by 2025.

This includes diverting 95 per cent of waste from landfill across all production facilities, reducing Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 30 per cent per kilogram of product, and developing renewable energy sources at three facilities.

Acting chief executive Sascha Detmold Cox said the first annual report measuring against the targets would be provided at the end of the year.

"The sustainability objectives set by the Detmold Group showcase our strong commitment to sustainable packaging, which benefits our clients, their customers and most importantly the environment," she said.

"We are taking the current standing of the Detmold Group and measuring it against these six positive impact targets, as well as aligning with progressive targets for the 2023 and 2024 calendar years."

Ms Detmold Cox said two of the six targets directly aligned with wider national packaging targets set by the federal government and industry in 2018. Detmold was one of the first signatories to the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO), the group charged with facilitating the delivery of the industry's sustainability targets, which apply to all packaging made, used and sold in Australia.

Ms Detmold Cox has stepped in as acting chief executive following the departure of Conrad Groenewald this month.

Meanwhile d'Arenberg's net zero target also aligns with an industry-wide decarbonisation push as the company achieves formal certification as a sustainable wine producer.

The company is a member of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia (SWA) – a national program allowing grape growers and winemakers to demonstrate and improve their sustainability credentials.

d'Arenberg is also working with Reconciliation Australia to create its first reconciliation action plan, which fourth-generation winemaker Chester Osborn said would “help foster unity and mutual respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and wider Australia”.

“Our commitment to sustainability goes beyond our environmental footprint,” he said. “Together with our SWA certification and carbon net zero emissions target, we are taking significant steps towards our ongoing journey of sustainability and reconciliation.”

The latest annual report released by Sustainable Winegrowing Australia shows there was a 48 per cent increase in membership last financial year, with more than 1150 vineyards, wineries and wine businesses signing up to the program, representing 40 per cent of total wine production in Australia.

Mr Osborn said d'Arenberg's commitment to sustainability was evident in its production practices, such as using traditional winemaking methods, employing organic and biodynamic practices, and maintaining biodiversity on the company's estate.