

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **SunRice announces Deniliquin Mill will reopen in 2011**

Leading Australian branded food business, SunRice, today announced it will reopen its Deniliquin Rice Mill in 2011, creating close to 90 jobs in the process.

The mill was temporarily closed and placed into ‘care and maintenance’ in 2008 following six years of drought. At the time local rice production had declined from an industry average of one million tonnes per year to a low of just 19,000 tonnes.

SunRice Chairman, Mr. Gerry Lawson said with a strong crop expected next year, the Board was delighted to recommission the company’s Deniliquin base.

“The Deniliquin Mill is not only SunRice’s largest and most sophisticated mill, it is one of the largest rice mills in the world,” he said.

“To see this magnificent plant in operation again and employing local people is the outcome that we’d always hoped for when we made the difficult decision to close the mill. This is a wonderful outcome, not only for our industry, but for the people of Deniliquin and the Murray region. The strong crop coupled with the mill reopening will have a positive impact on the region as a whole and bring with it significant economic flow-on effects.”

SunRice Chief Executive Officer Mr. Gary Helou said the Deniliquin Mill has been maintained by a small on-site crew since 2008. Preparation for the mill’s full reactivation will now start to enable it to receive and process paddy from April 2011.

“Deniliquin Mill will employ close to 90 skilled staff when it reopens, including millers, packing line operators, electrical and mechanical maintainers and logistics personnel, as well as associated support roles spanning safety, quality and shift leaders,” he said.

“The recruitment process will start immediately to ensure job training, accreditation and licensing can be completed in early 2011 in preparation for the first delivery of the new crop.”

Anyone interested working at Deniliquin Mill is invited to make contact with SunRice via [www.mycareeratsunrice.com.au](http://www.mycareeratsunrice.com.au) or by emailing [recruitment@sunrice.com.au](mailto:recruitment@sunrice.com.au)

**Media inquiries: Liane Sayer-Roberts, 0427 728 232 / [liane@saucecommunications.com.au](mailto:liane@saucecommunications.com.au)**

### **About SunRice**

Ricegrowers Limited, now trading as SunRice, is Australia’s leading branded rice food company, with products marketed in close to 60 countries around the globe. SunRice has annual sales of approximately AUD800 million.