

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP

Minister for Water
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Equality



Friday, 24 February 2023

BACKING GOULBURN VALLEY'S THRIVING FOOD INDUSTRY

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting a family-owned food processing and manufacturing business to expand its storage and distribution centre in Shepparton.

Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing today announced an investment through the Labor Government's *Regional Jobs Fund* to support JDK Management's \$5 million expansion, creating 20 new jobs and doubling the company's storage space.

JDK provides cold and dry storage and container services to multinational food processing and manufacturing businesses, employing more than 40 people across three sites in Shepparton.

Operating for more than 25 years, JDK is a third-generation family business and plays a crucial role in the food and beverage supply chain in Goulburn Valley, growing to become one of the largest storage warehouses in Shepparton.

Food manufacturing is one of the biggest industries in Goulburn Valley, accounting for more than 85 per cent of the region's manufacturing exports which are valued at \$640 million.

The *Regional Jobs Fund* is part of the Government's flagship \$156 million *Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund*, which helps businesses create jobs in regional Victoria.

The Government has invested more than \$700 million in its *Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund* since 2015 – supporting around 13,000 jobs and delivering 1,000 projects. For more information go to rdv.vic.gov.au/rjif

Quote attributable to Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing

"Backing JDK's expansion will create local jobs in Shepparton and cements Goulburn Valley's reputation as a leader in our food manufacturing sector."

Quote attributable to the Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"This expansion highlights Goulburn Valley's status as a food manufacturing powerhouse and is another example of what we're delivering in the region – a strong economy, powered by secure jobs."

Quote attributable to JDK Operations Manager Paul Kalafatis

"Doubling our existing storage is a win-win for JDK and the region – allowing us to offer a competitive and cutting-edge service to support the growth of new and existing clients."