



RURAL PRESS LIMITED

ABN 47 000 010 382

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Monday, 23 April 2007

**RURAL PRESS RECEIVES FEDERAL COURT ORDER  
REGARDING THE MERGER WITH FAIRFAX MEDIA**

The Federal Court of Australia today ordered that the schemes of arrangement between Rural Press Limited (**Rural Press**) and its Ordinary Shareholders (**Ordinary Scheme**) and Preferred Shareholders (**Preferred Scheme**) in relation to the proposed merger with Fairfax Media Limited (**Fairfax Media**), be approved.

The Schemes will become effective once a copy of the Court order is lodged with ASIC, which Rural Press intends to do tomorrow, 24 April 2007 (**Effective Date**).

As of close of business on the Effective Date, Rural Press Ordinary Shares and Preferred Shares will be suspended from quotation on the ASX. New Fairfax Media shares which are to be issued to Rural Press Ordinary and Preferred Shareholders under the Schemes are expected to commence trading on a deferred settlement basis on 26 April 2007.

The record date for the Rural Press Special Dividends declared on 8 February 2007 is expected to be 5.00pm on 2 May 2007, and payment is expected to occur on 8 May 2007.

The Schemes are expected to be implemented on 9 May 2007. No further action is required from Rural Press shareholders.

**Further Information**

Please contact the Shareholder Information Line on 1300 782 565 (if calling within Australia) or +613 9415 4122 (if calling from outside Australia).