



THE HON CHRISTOPHER PYNE MP
MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE
LEADER OF THE HOUSE
MEMBER FOR STURT

07 JAN 2016

Mr Guido Dumarey
Chief Executive Officer
Punch Corporation
K.L. Maenhoutstraat 49
SINT-MARTENS-LATEM BELGIUM 9830

Dear Mr ~~Dumarey~~ *Guido*,

I am writing to offer my support, and the support of the Australian Government, for the Punch Corporation investment proposal to enable the continuation of car manufacturing in Australia.

The Australian Government is committed to expanding economic growth and increasing jobs.

The Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, has called for a more agile and innovative country where new opportunities, such as the Punch investment proposal, are embraced.

As you know, I have personally met with you and other representatives of Punch and believe the proposal could work well in Australia. I have conveyed that view to the senior management of General Motors Holden here in Australia and have asked them to give your proposal a receptive hearing.

I can confirm my department, the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science and the Australian Government will be willing to work with all parties to this proposal, and will place a high priority on its further development.

This may take the form of facilitating engagement with state governments, in particular in South Australia and Victoria, including what assistance they may be able to provide or looking at the various forms of possible assistance that might be available from the Australian Government. There are, as you would be aware, opportunities through existing programmes such as the Automotive Transformation Scheme that I would be prepared to explore.

In addition, I have expressed to the states and territories that we need a renewed focus on procurement policies to ensure all Australian governments are doing their part to support Australian jobs and growth. I intend to continue to work in this area with a view to develop a nationally consistent approach. There are existing policies in place already that govern the procurement of some government vehicles that may be prospective.

I recommend that your office stays in close contact with Peter Chesworth, head of the Sectoral Growth Policy Division in my department is the best point of contact for further discussions at the departmental level. He can be contacted through the department by email via peter.chesworth@industry.gov.au or on 02 6213 6058.

I strongly commend further consideration of this proposal and am available to discuss it, or further clarify what the Australian Government can offer, as it is developed.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Pyne MP