



MITSUMI & CO. (AUSTRALIA) LTD.

ABN 64 004 349 795

22 August 2014

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary

Mitsui & Co. (Australia) Ltd. (Mitsui) is pleased to provide comments to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT) on its inquiry into the Agreement between Australia and Japan for an Economic Partnership (JAEPA).

Mitsui welcomed the signing of the JAEPA in July 2014. We strongly support the JAEPA and welcome its early entry into force following the JSCOT inquiry and the completion of domestic legal and parliamentary processes.

Mitsui is managing a diverse portfolio of businesses including iron ore, coal, gas, oil, food, grain, salt, woodchips, power generation, machinery, steel products, and chemicals in Australia. Our company is a leading exporter to Japan and other major trading partners of Australia. On an equity basis, Mitsui and its group companies account for an estimated \$8 billion worth of Australian goods and commodities exports per annum. Mitsui is also a major investor, and collectively its group companies have invested over \$13 billion into Australia over the last decade.

The JAEPA incorporates provisions to eliminate or reduce Japanese tariffs on a wide range of Australian goods, and improve access and protection for Japanese corporations seeking to invest in Australia. These arrangements will certainly boost the ability of companies like Mitsui to increase Australian exports to the Japanese market, and stimulate further investment into Australia.

We are confident the JAEPA will enhance and strengthen the economic relationship between Australia and Japan, fostering increased trade and investment flows to contribute to both countries' economic growth and scope for job creation.

Yours sincerely

 Masushi Takahashi
Chairman & CEO

Sent by e-mail 22 August 2014: jsct@aph.gov.au

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