

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts

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Inquiry into the provisions of the *Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment (New Mandate and Other Measures) Bill 2013*

The Tasmanian Government supports the implementation of the Australian Government's response to the Productivity Commission's 2012 inquiry into Australia's Export Credit Arrangements through the proposed *Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) Amendment (New Mandate and Other Measures) Bill 2013*.

With a significant proportion of Tasmanian companies being small to medium business, the Tasmanian Government welcomes the reorientation of EFIC's operations on its Commercial Account towards supporting commercially viable export-focussed SMEs seeking to access export finance, noting that such support is subject to market failure testing.

The Tasmanian Government also supports the ability of EFIC to guarantee loans of foreign-based subsidiaries of Australian-based SMEs, provided that the purpose is to support Australian export trade.

Yours faithfully

Mark Kelleher
Secretary

 April 2013