



George Town Chamber of Commerce Inc

ABN 32 324 760 898

PO Box 50 George Town, TAS 7253
www.georgetownchamber.com.au

Select Committee on Jobs for the future in Regional Areas

The Secretary
Dear Ms Allan

The George Town Municipality includes Tasmania's premier deep water port at Bell Bay and an industrial precinct that produces 59% of Tasmania's heavy manufacturing.

George Town has a rich aboriginal and colonial history however it was significantly expanded in the 1950s and 60s to service Comalco Aluminium and South 32 heavy industrial plants. Since that time the prosperity of the town has been tied to the ebbs and flows of the number of people employed in heavy industry. The likely closure of the South 32 plant (currently waiting a final recommendation) will mean a significant increase in unemployment in George Town.

The Chamber of Commerce would appreciate greater and ongoing support in the following areas:

- 1. Incentives for new businesses to locate to Bell Bay**
- 2. Tailored vocational training that is timely and responsive to the particular circumstances, eg closure of South 32 will involve many older George Town residents with a life time of working in a heavy industrial plant becoming unemployed.**
- 3. George Town sees it's future in a diverse range of small, medium and large industries with Tourism key. The Chamber has welcomed the Government's investment in Mountain Bike Infrastructure and would like to see this expanded so that tourists have a variety of high quality experiences supported by high quality infrastructure.**

The Chamber would be happy to expand on any of these points,

Yours Sincerely

Jo Hart
Secretary George Town Chamber of Commerce

