

Monday 12th January 2009

Senate Standing Committee on Education
Mr John Carter
Employment and Workplace Relations Inquiry into the Fair Work Bill 2008

Dear Mr Carter

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Inquiry into the Fair Work Bill 2008

The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia (CMEWA) appreciate the opportunity to review and provide a brief response to the *Inquiry into the Fair Work Bill 2008*.

The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of WA (CME) is the peak resources sector representative body in Western Australia with its members covering approximately 85% of all mineral and energy employees in Western Australia.

The CME's vision is to champion the Western Australian resources sector and assist in achieving its vision to lead the world in sustainable practices through innovation and underpin Australia's position in the global economy.

The Western Australian Resource sector is a significant contributor to the state economy and is the single largest contributor to the Gross State Product (GSP), accounting for 85% of Western Australia's total export income.

Ensuring impediments to efficiency are removed and enabling the growth of sector is essential in the current global economic climate. It is critical for industrial relations legislation to support workplaces by providing certainty and facilitating flexibility in employment arrangements whilst safeguarding all parties from unfair or unnecessarily onerous influences.

The CME supports the views taken by both the Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) and the Australian Mines and Metals Association (AMMA) in their responses to the Senate Inquiry and will not be making a separate submission.

The CME advocates for reform which demonstrates responsible and fair practices, supports economic growth, job creation, flexibility and creates a harmonious work environment.

If further information is needed on the issues raised in this submission please contact Amanda Gradisen, Executive Officer Workforce Participation (08) 9220 8538 or at a.gradisen@cmewa.com.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Roocke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'N'.

Nicole Roocke
Director
12 January 2009