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Senate Standing Committees On Economics

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ATTN:- Committee Secretariat

**Subject: Australia Manufacturing Industry Inquiry**

I am making this submission to offer suggestions to re-starting Australia's Manufacturing Sector which has been progressively destroyed over the last 40 years by Neoliberal Ideology & Globalisation Policy. This has resulted in the loss of our main employment base. The current COVID 19 pandemic has highlighted in graphic detail major problems with total reliance on imports with the resulting disruption to global supply chains. An island nation such as Australia must have self supporting capability. Having onshore production would greatly assist in going full “shields up” should another pandemic occur.

I note the recent **Inquiry into Diversifying Australia's Trade and Investment Profile** which identified that we could stand alone without requiring foreign investment, which is only possible with our own manufacturing base & a Public National Bank. However the window of opportunity here is very rapidly closing. The return of our Manufacturing sector would provide the following benefits:

- Real Jobs that would be interesting for the majority of people. Indigenous people & those in country regional areas tend to be “hardwired” for actual constructive work.
- Lifting people's moral & drive to succeed with “real” work giving real results.
- Boosting quality of life.
- Real recovery from COVID 19, as we would start making & building things, producing real results.
- A stronger tax revenue base to drive Universal Basic Income for those who can't work.

**MANUFACTURING & INDUSTRIAL CAPACITIES:**

- Processing of our iron ore & bauxite reserves into finished steel & aluminium, hence provide added value in exporting finished materials vs just raw materials. We have the world's best thermal coal reserves which could be used here to assist in steel production until Nuclear Power becomes available.
- Pre-fabricated steel frames & aluminium products to reduce the cost of house & building construction. This would have the benefit of reducing timber consumption from our limited forests or overseas forests, plantation timbers could be used in interior finishes.
- Electronics Manufacturing initially focussing on professional sectors such as Defence, Aerospace & Critical Infrastructure. Consumer goods could come later if deemed beneficial. Delays in getting the latest big screen TV's or mobile phones are not show stoppers, however being able to get parts for a PLC SCADA system in a water treatment plant or power station is vital.

- Nuclear Power would provide enormous amounts of cheap clean energy, particularly the latest Gen 4 Modular Reactor Technology being developed in China. Australia has the third largest reserves of Uranium and could become a World Authority in this area. Benefits would include:
  - Value adding with processed nuclear fuels, including the expectation that spent fuel would be returned to Australia from countries it was exported to.
  - Provide a strong baseload capacity 24/7 for manufacturing & related industries.
  - Enable development of high speed railways. We missed a golden opportunity with Inland Rail, this should have been high speed.
  - Electric vehicle developments, including charging stations.
  - Water de-salination & associated conveyancing pipeline systems.
- Aerospace & Defence, vital as we currently rely far too heavily on imports in these sectors, placing National Security at risk.
- Re-use of our coal mining industry's heavy excavation & tunneling experience to execute projects such as the Bradfield Scheme.

#### GOVERNMENT ROLES REQUIRED TO SUPPORT MANUFACTURING:

- Cancelling the Lima Declaration the Whitlam Labor Government signed Australia up to in 1975.
- Cancelling other "Free Trade" agreements that are not in Australia's best interests.
- Removing the political correctness & "wokeness" from our schools & educational institutions. School education should primarily focus on:
  - Science.
  - Mathematics.
  - English.
  - Manual Arts.
  - Financial Education.
  - Home Economics.
  - Physical Education & Health.
- Establish a Publically Owned National Infrastructure & Savings Bank to provide capital for a real economy. This should include re-locking our \$AUD to a gold standard & instigating Glass Steagal. Our current economy is woeful, only concentrating on digging holes in the ground, house flipping & speculation, burning up loads of capital, but achieving nothing.
- Implementing all the recommendations of the **Financial Services Royal Commission** to clean up our failing financial system.
- Reforming Occupational Health & Safety. This has created an entire industry that seems more pre-occupied with "opportunity" than actual results. We can be safe at work without all the imposts & overheads caused by OHS. Safety & Skills training can be more practical in the workplace itself.

- Reducing our obsession with qualifications. I am finding in my work, University is becoming less necessary due to information available on the Internet from equipment & component suppliers. We need to improve practical experience via the School & TAFE Systems.
- Restore our TAFE System to replace Years 10-12 and provide real world training for manufacturing industries & speed up supply of skilled workers.
- Trade policy based on what Australia can't produce or where local production is hampered, such as natural disaster. Improve dialog with China.
- Not getting involved in Climate Alarmism & the "un-earned business" this will generate. Carbon Credits, Offsets & taxes are fraudulent, only increasing costs which would disadvantage Australia's competitiveness, with no benefit. Solar & Wind power with battery storage is best used in smaller applications such as homes & small business.
- Properly monitor & control costs of living so that wages don't have to be too high. Remove income taxes for incomes below \$100,000 PA.
- Develop a network of high speed railways & electric vehicle charging stations to support the real economy. In conjunction with nuclear power, this gives a clean method of domestic travel not reliant on fossil fuels for aviation, this being utilised only for international travel. This would provide real reductions in our emissions. Integrate the trucking industry into the high speed rail network.
- Encourage research & development related to manufacturing & innovation, an example being electric transport solutions such as Lilium Jet.
- Eliminate Superannuation as this is feeding a speculative financial industry, not providing the benefits that were promoted at its creation. The tax rebates thus saved could provide a proper Pension for retirees via increased interest earnings in a Public National Bank.

I look forward to seeing the results of this inquiry & strongly recommend implementing it's findings to provide a better Australia & a return to our status of "The Lucky Country" Let's get building & making things again. We enjoyed rapid ascension in the post war Industrial Revolution, we could do this again. Thank You for your time in considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Darryn Wiley.