Submission No 4

ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

Organisation: Narrabri Shire Council

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Date Received: 14/03/2012

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The Chair
Committee on Economic Development
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

14 March 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

Items for consideration into the inquiry of the creation of a special economic zone (SEZ) in regional and rural New South Wales are as follows:

- Comprehensive upgrade of the hard infrastructure that connects the SEZ to the rest of the world in the form of telecommunications, air, road, rail and ports.
- Pre funding, design and creation of a substantial part of the infrastructure within the SEZ to an international standard.
- Provision of free or cheap land to businesses who want to set up in the SEZ.
- Provision of different corporate tax rates and potentially different personal tax rates to attract works and workers to the SEZ.
- Global promotion of the zone to create investment by local and international companies.
- Encourage business and industry clusters allowing financial benefits to be gained from economies of scale and vertical and horizontal integration.
- Creation of a policy framework that differentiates the SEZ from the rest of the economy thereby acting as an enabling agent for the area.
- Tax deductibility incentives for investing in the SEZ.
- Streamline government procedures in an effort to kick-start the SEZ.

At present, there is a lot of talk about Australia being a two speed and/or patchwork economy. A special economic zone has the capacity to add another layer of advantage to an area, workforce or industry sector. This means that organisations within the dedicated area find it easier to compete both nationally and internationally due to the subsidised nature of their operations than those external to the special economic zone.

Yours faithfully,

Bill Birch

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER