

**Submission
No 25**

**PERFORMANCE OF THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT ACTIVATION FUND AND
THE REGIONAL JOB CREATION FUND**

Organisation: Australian Food and Pharmaceutical Industries

Date Received: 18 November 2023

Thanks to the grant, we successfully purchased essential machinery that has allowed us to scale our production to meet increasing customer demand. The project's completion aligned with the anticipated timeline, which we are very pleased about.

However, during the implementation phase, we encountered an unforeseen challenge. We observed that service charges from contractors significantly increased when they noticed the signage indicating the project was "Funded by NSW Government." This unexpected rise in service costs has resulted in a considerable financial strain on our resources, leaving us in an urgent need of additional cash flow.

Despite our best efforts to manage this situation, including exploring all available avenues for funding, we find ourselves in a precarious position. We would greatly appreciate any advice, assistance, or options for support that your department could provide to help us navigate this financial shortfall. The sustainability of our operations and the ability to continue contributing positively to the local economy may be impacted without further support.