

The Australia Institute

Research that matters.

24 April 2014

Mr Stephen Galilee
Chief Executive Officer
NSW Minerals Council
PO Box H367
Australia Square NSW 1215

Dear Stephen,

The Australia Institute is researching forms of assistance provided by state governments to minerals and fossil fuel companies. While the benefits that these industries provide to state governments through royalty payments are widely publicised, the costs to state governments of providing industry assistance are less well known.

In order to ensure our research is as comprehensive as possible could you please provide your best estimate of the following? If your organisation has no such data or estimates it would still be useful for us if you could inform us of that so that we can accurately describe the potential holes in current data collection practices

- From our analysis so far, there are examples in most states of industry assistance through direct payments, concessions, administered spending, infrastructure provision and various others. Do members keep separate records of assistance from state governments that would assist in our study? If so, could you please provide us with your latest estimate?
- Does your organisation have an estimate of state government assistance either in absolute terms or as a percentage of government spending/overall industry assistance or other measure? Do you have a recommended level of assistance for the industry through any of these measures? If so, could you please provide us with your recommended level of support?
- What forms of assistance do your members consider are the most valuable to them individually or as an industry (eg direct infrastructure provision versus tax concessions)?

One of our researchers would be happy to discuss the study and more detailed questions with you, your staff or your members in the coming weeks. We look forward to engaging with you on this important research.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Richard Denniss
Executive Director,
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