



Meeting Brief

MB25-000701

FOR INFORMATION - s22

8:00am - 8:45am, Friday 17 October 2025

TO: Minister for Industry and Innovation; Minister for Science

CC: Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy

PURPOSE OF MEETING

- s22
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KEY MESSAGES

- The Commonwealth has supported Tasmanian major industrial facilities over many years, most recently through:

s47B

- \$24 million grant over 5 years for the Boyer Paper Mill.
- engaging with the Tasmanian and South Australian Governments on the next steps for the Nyrstar facilities in Hobart and Port Pirie.

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Opportunities for Tasmanian industry

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SENSITIVITIES

- These have been included with points on the individual facilities above.

DATA REFERENCED

- Nil

CONSULTATION

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Clearance Officer

Louise Talbot
A/g Head of Division
Industrial Transition Response Team

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Clearance Date: 16 October 2025

Contact Officer

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Manager, Green Aluminium and Alumina
Heavy Industry Transition Division

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ATTACHMENTS

A: s22



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

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FOI 300565 - Document 7

Ministerial Submission

MS25-001206

FOR ACTION – Bell Bay Aluminium: Update and Commonwealth position

TO: Minister for Industry and Innovation; Minister for Science

CC: Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy

TIMING

s34(1)(C)

Recommendation

s34(1)(C)

Noted / Please discuss

Signature

NOTED IN OFFICE

Date: 10/10/2025

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s34(2)

s34(3)

Other Commonwealth financial support provided to Tasmania

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- The Albanese Government has also committed \$24 million to support the Boyer paper mill in Tasmania. s47B

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Next steps

- s34(2)

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Clearance Officer

Renee Chilton, A/General Manager
Green Metals Branch,
Heavy Industry Transition Division

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Clearance Date: 09/09/2025

Contact Officer

s22

A/Manager, Green Aluminium and Alumina
Section

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ATTACHMENTS

A: Tasmanian DSG letter to DISR Secretary re BBA

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Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

Briefing Paper – Department of State Growth & Bell Bay Aluminium

MEETING DETAILS: **Monday 15 September**

1:00 – 1:30pm

DISR – Executive Meeting Room (13.012)

ATTENDEES:

Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Julia Pickworth – Deputy Secretary Industry & Commercialisation

Louise Talbot – A/g Head of Division, Industrial Transition Response Team

Department of State Growth

Craig Limkin – Secretary, Department of State Growth

Bell Bay Aluminium

TBC

PURPOSE: Bell Bay Aluminium current situation and Commonwealth support

BRIEFING:

- It is understood Minister Ayres spoke with the Tasmanian Minister for Business, Industry and Resources, Minister Felix Ellis, on Thursday of last week although no information has been provided to the Department following this meeting.

s47B & s47

BACKGROUND

- Bell Bay in the George Town area in Northern Tasmania is home to BBA and Liberty Bell Bay, a ferro manganese and silicomanganese smelter owned by Liberty Steel Group.
- There are 510 direct jobs affected with BBA, accounting for 18 per cent of George Town employment. Many employees are over 50 years old and have above-average incomes, which might make it challenging to find similar work in the region. Of the direct jobs, most of the workforce is Machinery Operators and Drivers (51.1 per cent), Technicians and Trades Workers (20.2 per cent), and Professionals (11.7 per cent).

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s47B & s47

Aluminium smelters in Australia

- There are four aluminium smelters producing approximately 1.6 million tonnes of aluminium per year. BBA is the smallest producer.

Smelter	Owner	Annual Production (t)
Bell Bay, North West TAS	100% owned by Rio Tinto	190,000

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OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

MEETING WITH TAS GOVERNMENT ON INDUSTRIAL SECTOR PLAN

DATE Tuesday, 22 October 2024
TIME 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm (AEDT)
LOCATION Microsoft TEAMS (meeting invites have been sent to all attendees)
MEETING ORGANISER s22 EA to Tara Oliver, Head of Division Industry and Manufacturing Division
CONTACT OFFICER s22 , Assistant Manager, Industrial Sector Plans

ATTENDEES

- s22 , A/Director Advanced Manufacturing and Defence Industries, TAS Department of State Growth (Biography at Attachment A)
- s22 , A/g Assistant Director, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT), TAS Department of State Growth (Biography at Attachment A)
- s22 , Policy Analyst, Climate Change Office, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT), TAS Department of State Growth (Biography at Attachment A)
- s22 , Director Hydrogen, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT), TAS Department of State Growth (Biography at Attachment A)
- s22 , Manager Bioenergy, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT), TAS Department of State Growth (Biography at Attachment A)
- **Tara Oliver**, Head of Division, Industry and Manufacturing Division, DISR
- **Leah Wojcik**, General Manager, Industry Net Zero Transformation, DISR
- s22 , Manager, Industrial Sector Plan Section, DISR
- s22 , Assistant Manager, Industrial Sector Plan Section, DISR
- s22 , Assistant Manager, Industrial Sector Plan Section, DISR (note taker)

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SENSITIVITIES

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OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

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- On 23 August 2023, it was reported that **Nyrstar Hobart** has **paused its zinc smelter upgrade project** while it reviews the project. The Australian government has committed \$50 million (DISR announced on 23 October 2022) towards the \$400 million project. Business-as-usual operations are expected to continue, and no layoffs are expected. The review outcome is expected in late December 2024 or early January 2025.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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