



30 May 2011

The Secretary
Senate Select Committee on the Scrutiny of New Taxes
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email newtaxes.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Inquiry into a carbon tax

Thank you for the invitation to attend the public hearing in Perth on 29th April 2011 on the Inquiry into a carbon tax.

As you will recall the following Questions on Notice were taken at that hearing:

- 1. Are you able to put a number on the portion of the cost base of your industry that would relate to energy?**

AMEC response to question 1:

AMEC is still collecting data from its membership to quantify the portion of the cost base that would relate to energy. AMEC expects that the figure will vary based on a number of factors such as the type and source of energy, nature of the mining operation, the type of commodity being processed and the beneficiation process.

- 2. How many of your members would be subject to a carbon tax?**

AMEC response to question 2:

AMEC is unable to answer this question in the absence of detail regarding the design of the tax.

- 3. How much carbon pollution are your members responsible for?**

AMEC response to question 3:

AMEC cannot currently quantify how much pollution its members are collectively responsible for.

In accordance with Section 24 of *the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007*, the Greenhouse and Energy Data Officer must publish greenhouse gas emissions reported by a registered corporation or a Reporting Transfer Certificate holder that exceed an emissions publishing threshold. I understand that the threshold for 2010/11 is 87.5 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalence.

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Only a limited number of AMEC members exceed the publishing threshold and have publicly available emissions data. A comprehensive survey would be needed to obtain emissions data for all those members who don't exceed the publishing threshold. AMEC has not had sufficient time to gather this information.

4. Have any of your members made a statement to the stock exchange that a carbon price will have a significant detrimental impact on them?

AMEC response to question 4:

I am not aware of any such statements, however AMEC does not monitor ASX announcements made by individual company members.

5. How many AMEC members operate in Africa?

AMEC response to question 5:

Based on data available to AMEC at this time, I am aware of approximately 20 members with projects in Africa.

6. Across your membership, approximately how many people would be employed?

AMEC response to question 6:

AMEC undertook some research and there are literally tens of thousands of employees, sub-contractors and consultants across AMEC's membership. Based on data available to AMEC at this time, I am unable to give an exact figure.

Thank you for the opportunity to make additional comment on this most important issue.

If you consider it necessary, I would be pleased to discuss these issues in more detail at a time that is convenient.

Regards

Simon Bennison
Chief Executive Officer