



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Standing Committee on Industry, Innovation, Science and Resources

Inquiry into how the Mining Industry can Support Businesses in Regional Economies

Issue date: 27 August 2018

Industry Committee to hear from organisations in Mackay

The Innovation, Industry, Science and Resources Committee will travel to Mackay on Thursday, 30 August 2018 for a public hearing on mining and regional business.

The Committee will hear from a range of organisations including the Mackay and Isaac Regional Councils, the Mackay Chamber of Commerce, BHP and the Resource Industry Network.

The full program is available on the Committee's [website](#).

Committee Chair, Mr Barnaby Joyce MP, said he looked forward to meeting with businesses and individuals in Mackay, where big coal projects throughout the region, including Moranbah South, Byerwen, Styx and Taroborah had the potential to contribute significantly to building regional economies in Central Queensland.

“It’s important that businesses in the region have the opportunity to bid for the construction and other work that comes along with this kind of investment”, Mr Joyce said.

“The Committee wants to understand how much of the wealth generated through resource extraction stays in the area where the resources are extracted.”

Committee member, and Member for Dawson, Mr George Christensen MP, agreed that the people and businesses of Mackay and Central Queensland need to be able to have confidence that the benefits of mining in their region will be felt locally.

“Lots of local businesses and industry groups have raised concerns with me, particularly around payment terms, and some of them will have a chance to put their side of the story to the Parliament at this hearing,” Mr Christensen said.

“We are also still accepting submissions, which can be made confidentially so people can remain anonymous.”

Interested parties can read the terms of reference and make a submission on the Committee's [website](#).

Public hearing details: 8.30 am to 2.00 pm, Thursday, 30 August 2018, Building 1, Floor 4, Central Queensland University, Mackay.

The hearing will be broadcast live at aph.gov.au/live



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Media enquiries:

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For background information:

Standing Committee on Industry, Innovation, Science and Resources

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Interested members of the public may wish to track the committee via the [website](#). Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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