



**mitsui & co. (AUSTRALIA) LTD.**

ABN 64 004 349 795

13 November 2014

Committee Secretary  
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary

**Re: Inquiry into the Customs Amendment (Japan-Australia Economic Partnership Agreement Implementation) Bill 2014 and Customs Tariff Amendment (Japan-Australia Economic Partnership Agreement Implementation) Bill 2014.**

I refer to your letter dated 31 October 2014 inviting Mitsui & Co. (Australia) Ltd. to make a submission to the abovementioned inquiry.

Mitsui strongly supports the Japan Australia Economic Partnership Agreement (JAEP A) and welcomes its early entry into force.

We are confident JAEP A will enhance and strengthen the economic relationship between Australia and Japan, fostering increased trade and investment flows to contribute to both countries' economic growth and scope for job creation.

Mitsui participated in the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT) inquiry into JAEP A, and strongly endorses JSCOT Report 144, which recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

The two bills which are the subject of this inquiry should be passed immediately to ensure the regulations to implement JAEP A are not delayed, and the commercial benefits of the agreement can be realised quickly.

I attach a copy of Mitsui's submission to the JSCOT inquiry for the committee members' reference.

Yours sincerely

Yasushi Takahashi  
Chairman & CEO

Sent by e-mail 13 November 2014: fadt.sen@aph.gov.au

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## **MITSUMI & CO. (AUSTRALIA) LTD.**

ABN 64 004 349 795

22 August 2014

Committee Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary

Mitsui & Co. (Australia) Ltd. (Mitsui) is pleased to provide comments to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT) on its inquiry into the Agreement between Australia and Japan for an Economic Partnership (JAEPA).

Mitsui welcomed the signing of the JAEPA in July 2014. We strongly support the JAEPA and welcome its early entry into force following the JSCOT inquiry and the completion of domestic legal and parliamentary processes.

Mitsui is managing a diverse portfolio of businesses including iron ore, coal, gas, oil, food, grain, salt, woodchips, power generation, machinery, steel products, and chemicals in Australia. Our company is a leading exporter to Japan and other major trading partners of Australia. On an equity basis, Mitsui and its group companies account for an estimated \$8 billion worth of Australian goods and commodities exports per annum. Mitsui is also a major investor, and collectively its group companies have invested over \$13 billion into Australia over the last decade.

The JAEPA incorporates provisions to eliminate or reduce Japanese tariffs on a wide range of Australian goods, and improve access and protection for Japanese corporations seeking to invest in Australia. These arrangements will certainly boost the ability of companies like Mitsui to increase Australian exports to the Japanese market, and stimulate further investment into Australia.

We are confident the JAEPA will enhance and strengthen the economic relationship between Australia and Japan, fostering increased trade and investment flows to contribute to both countries' economic growth and scope for job creation.

Yours sincerely

*Masushi Takahashi*  
Chairman & CEO

Sent by e-mail 22 August 2014: [jsct@aph.gov.au](mailto:jsct@aph.gov.au)

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