



Friday 28 October 2011

Mr Tony Windsor MP

Chair

House Standing Committee on Regional Australia

PO Box 6021

Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Windsor

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**RE: Support for Fly-In Fly-Out hub on the Gold Coast**

**House Standing Committee on Regional Australia Inquiry into FIFO Workforce Practices in Regional Australia.**

Regional Development Australia Gold Coast Committee supports the establishment of a fly-in fly-out hub on the Gold Coast. It is an initiative that has the potential to bring significant benefits to the Gold Coast economy and provide an employment gateway for families already residing in the region.

The Gold Coast has exceptional life style and liveability benefits to offer its residents, but the region is currently experiencing significant labour market challenges characterised by higher than average unemployment. The development of a fly-in fly-out hub at the Gold Coast Airport would enhance employment opportunities for Gold Coast residents while attracting other fly-in fly-out workers to relocate to the region for its lifestyle opportunities.

Specialised social support for the families of fly-in fly-out workers is important to ensure that the social impacts of family separation are addressed.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit this response and look forward to working with your office to tap into the social and economic benefits the mining boom may deliver for our region.

Yours faithfully

**Craig Devlin**

Chairman

Regional Development Australia Gold Coast Inc.

