

The Minister of Planning  
Mr Robert Stokes,  
23-33 Bridge Street,  
Sydney NSW 2000.

## STATE SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE – BLAST FURNACE 6 RELINE

I **fully support** Blue Scope Steel's proposed reline of No 6 Blast Furnace. This Project has been identified as a State Significant Project. However, its importance is not restricted to just NSW, this infrastructure project is crucial for Australia.

I am a **local resident** living in Mt St Thomas approximately 2.5km away from the No 6 Blast Furnace, as the crow flies. I am 65 years old and have lived in several suburbs surrounding the steelworks for much of my life. I can personally attest to the **immense contribution** that the steelworks has upon the **local economy and livelihood** of the region's population. Whether it's through **jobs and wages** or its association with countless additional **flow on impacts** to other businesses. Including, supporting sporting teams and other community associations. The steelworks has been the **backbone for significant growth** within the Illawarra.

It is important to note that this proposal is **not a greenfield** site. There is substantive existing infrastructure that has already disturbed its surrounds. As such the **Project's impact upon the environmental is minimal** in terms of 'clearing of land' or the 'destruction of habitat' of various species.

Just as important is the very **product** of the Steel Works itself that highlights the need to support this vital industry. Few fully comprehend **the necessity of the steel industry** to provide the bases for the **renewable energy development** so vital for Australia's **fight to combat climate change**. Without steel there would be no wind mills, there would be no pipes to deliver water for the Snowy Hydro No 2 Project. No pipes, pumps and other infrastructure to deliver ground water to farms for growing the very crops we depend on to live. **Steel contributes** to solar panels. Without steel we are doomed to fail reducing emissions. **Steel contributes** to our very lifestyle.

If we didn't create our own steel in Australia we would have to **import** more from overseas (even greater emissions). Recent discord between Australia and China and the events being experienced in the Ukraine highlight the need to continue to be alert and active to ensure the **defence** of our Nation. **Steel is vital**. Australia must maintain its steel industry as a means of independence and security.

As a local resident I can also attest to the presence of environmental issues such as noise, dust, traffic and emissions, due to the very presence of this Industry. However, I recognise the situation has **improved significantly** over the years, with all of these aforementioned issues reducing in their impact. This has been an ongoing and concerted effort to **reduce the size of the environmental footprint** of the steelworks. This is especially evident in improvements associated with water quality in local creeks. Our house does suffer from excess dust deposition; however I recognise that this is a small price to pay for all the benefits this Industry brings to the Region, the State and the Nation.

**This Project must be approved.**

Yours Faithfully,



Rod Doyle  
16 Hill St  
Mount Saint Thomas.