



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

MEDIA RELEASE

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Delivering Advanced Welder Training Centre in Burnie

A \$750,000 Liberal commitment, made in the Braddon by-election, to deliver an Advanced Welder Training Centre (AWTC) is helping deliver skills and jobs in Burnie and North West Tasmania.

Liberal Senator for Tasmania Richard Colbeck and Braddon Liberal Candidate Gavin Pearce said the partnership between the Liberal National Government and the Tasmanian Minerals and Energy Council (TMEC) was already delivering advanced manufacturing skills.

Senator Colbeck: “North West Tasmania has enormous opportunities for advanced manufacturing in the pipeline and it is vital that we pass on the technical know-how of our region to the next generation.

“This Advanced Welder Training Centre in South Burnie is the first industry-led centre in Australia and has consolidated the town’s reputation as a hub for advanced manufacturing and mining services.

“The Liberals are methodically delivering on our Braddon by-election commitments and we are clearly the only Party that believes in delivering on our by-election promises.

“By delivering a strong economy and a Budget surplus we are able to pay for the skills and education opportunities that are essential for the success of Tasmanian’s next generation.”

Mr Pearce: “I congratulate TMEC and industry for identifying and developing a practical way to ensure key skills required for local business to participate in the \$200 billion defence industry build-up can be met.

“It is critical that we back North West Tasmanian businesses to train our people in the high-level skills needed in advanced manufacturing.”

“The Burnie AWTC will also increase our capacity to export advanced manufacturing products around the world, including as part of the global defence industry and mining supply chains.

“Welding simulators allow students and professional welders to up-skill with different materials and practice techniques that will allow them to pass the stringent tests required for advanced welding certification.

“It also saves on costs and waste because materials aren’t required until students attain high levels of competence, which allows our manufacturers to maintain their lean manufacturing processes without compromising on training quality.”

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