



PLASTIC PRODUCTS (STH.AUST.)

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Peter Leahy

Thursday, November 28, 2013

Review of the Australian Automotive Manufacturing Industry
Productivity Commission
LB2 Collins Street East
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Attention : The Commissioner

Re : Submission

Dear Sir,

Let me start by saying, my company, Plastic Products (Sth Aust), is potentially the oldest Automotive component supplier in Australia, if not the oldest.

We began making Ford components in 1968 when I was 24 years old.

Since then we have been a first tier supplier to GMH, Toyota, Ford, Mitsubishi and Nissan.

While no longer a first tier supplier we are now supplying seven first tier suppliers in Melbourne as a second and third tier supplier.

As I am 70 years old in January it is fair to say we are experienced Automotive Component Suppliers. Thirty percent of our current business is for this industry and it would be touch and go for us without a healthy Automotive Manufacturing Industry in Australia.

I believe the ripple effect of no Automotive Manufacturing Industry in Australia would be enormous and devastating to individuals, companies and inevitably Australia.

To quote one small example as follows :

Plastic Products (Sth Aust) manufactures a stove knob for Electrolux. This component is sent to a specialty Automotive supplier in Melbourne for painting.

If the Automotive Industry in Australia was to close our supplier would not survive leaving us with potentially no Australian supplier for our specialty painting, hence having a major impact on a business outside of the Automotive umbrella.

In addition the value of my business in both real estate and resale price would be greatly diminished.

Closure of large Automotive suppliers in this area of Adelaide such as Toyoda Gosei and Tenneco would have a dramatic effect on the local community.

In closing, I believe the Australian Automotive Manufacturing Industry MUST be preserved.

Yours faithfully

Peter Leahy
Managing Director
Plastic Products (Sth Aust)