

Dear Productivity Commission,

I have a young family and am very concerned that my children will be able to have fulfilling jobs in the future, and I am concerned that short-sighted decisions such as closing down the car manufacturing industry will impact on this.

While I don't know directly anyone employed in the car industry, but I have family and friends who are unemployed and it is really hard to find jobs out there. It would upset me greatly to think that there would be another 200,000 people put in that situation as a result of this decision.

I don't think that the automotive industry is getting an unfair amount of subsidies in return for the benefits it returns with respect to employment, technologies and training. It is not excessive when compared to the subsidies given by other countries (e.g. UK, USA or Germany) to their car industries, or subsidies given to other industries in Australia (e.g. banking or mining). However, loss of the auto industry would be devastating to the people and their families who are currently involved in the car industry and to those in the future that would have been able to have training or employment related to this important manufacturing capability.

For a relatively small input from the government into the car industry, 30 times this amount is generated in the Australian economy. For me this is my tax money well spent, especially if it also means creating training opportunities, jobs, and new technologies.

Kind Regards,  
Heidi Sutherland