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**From:** brian@devilsdistillery.com.au  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 May 2020 5:45 AM  
**To:** secretariat.PESRAC  
**Cc:** 'Abetz, Eric (Senator)'  
**Subject:** Australian Manufacturing Impetus

Good morning,

Having just read your Business Tasmania: COVID-19 update 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and from the section "Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Council", I would like to offer the following: -

History has taught us that it takes supply difficulties generated by a protracted war, to make a country realise its shortcomings in its own manufactured products. The economic circumstances of such a war are not unlike Australia's current situation in this virus pandemic. Unfortunately, this coronavirus does mutate and may create other pandemics that are more severe.

We have relied far too heavily on non-value added raw product exports and overseas tourists to provide our economic benefit. To more quickly effect the former, Australia destroyed most of its manufacturing capability by dropping import tariffs. This action forced industries to leave Australia and manufacture products in countries that could source cheap labour. Subsequently, we have a plethora of poor quality, short life imports, which now pervade our waste disposal land-fill dumps.

The demise of manufacturing capability started with the textile and foot-ware industries in the late 80's and last year our vehicle manufacturing finally left our shores. These actions have strengthened the economic circumstances of many regions in Asia and their burgeoning factory emissions have shown scant regard to the environment.

I find it ridiculous that Australia's Green movement punished our own controlled manufacturing development, yet seem unperturbed that despotic and/or autocratic Asian Government's manufacturing wracks havoc with the world's environment.

Before it is too late, I suggest we try to reverse this local manufacturing demise, by encouraging textile and foot-ware manufacturing industries to return to our shores. To effect this we need tariff protection from cheaply made imports. I suggest this starts with products from the People's Republic of China and from those Chinese business interests in other developing Asian countries.

Perhaps the return of these 'first lost' manufacturing industries, may help kick-start the return of our entire manufacturing capability, as well as providing the excellent product quality that was once supplied to our people.

After the Second World War, the Tasmanian Government encouraged Claudio Alcorso to set up Silk and Textile Printers in an old munitions factory in Derwent Park. This factory at its peak employed over 1400 people and provided many others with employment in support industries.

Let's 'turn back the wheel' and hopefully again return to balanced economic development!

Regards,

Brian Hinson

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