Our Ref: FOI2017/00005

Dear [Redacted]

APPLICATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991

I refer to your application to the Department of State Development (DSD) made under the Freedom of Information Act 1991 (FOI Act) and received 10 October 2017. Your application sought access to:

"documents relating to the South Australian Industry Participation Policy (IPP). In particular, I am seeking documents relating to:

- The IPP’s interaction with South Australia’s Free Trade obligations under agreements with the United States (AUSFTA), New Zealand (Including the Australia and New Zealand Government Procurement Agreement) and Singapore (Singapore – Australia Free Trade Agreement);
- The IPP’s interaction with Australia’s offer for accession to the World Trade Organisation’s Agreement on Government Procurement; and
- Guidance provided to government entities surrounding the application of the local content requirements introduced under the IPP in procurement activities (noting the applicant has reviewed the material available on the IPP Website).

A search was conducted for documents held by DSD and 22 documents were identified within scope of your application. I have considered the documents and advice received through consultation with third parties and have determined to release three documents in full.

I have determined to exempt in full 12 documents pursuant to Clause 10, containing privileged advice from representatives of the Crown Solicitor’s Office.

I have determined to exempt in full nine documents pursuant to Clause 1, Cabinet documents or documents containing specific information pertaining to a decision or deliberation of Cabinet. This Clause is also absolute and no public interest test is required to be met.

Six documents are considered exempt in full and one document considered exempt in part pursuant to Clause 5. The documents relate to matters in the context of an international agreement between Governments and are official exchanges between these parties. The documents therefore involve international or inter-governmental relations. Moreover, both the exchanges and the matters raised in the documents were communicated in confidence to the South Australian Government.
The release of these documents would divulge confidential intergovernmental communication and would cause damage to the relationship DSD has with these agencies.

No fees and charges are payable for this application.

If you are not satisfied with this determination you have a legal right of review and appeal. Details on your review rights can be found by visiting www.archives.sa.gov.au/content/foi-forms.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

ACCREDITED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

14 /12 /2017
South Australian Industry Participation Policy

August 2017

Measuring Economic Benefit through Jobs, Investment and Supply Chain Opportunities

www.statedevelopment.sa.gov.au
Contents

Introduction ......................................................................................................................... 3
1. Purpose ............................................................................................................................ 4
2. Policy Coverage .............................................................................................................. 4
3. The Policy Framework .................................................................................................. 5
   3.1 Economic development ............................................................................................. 5
   3.1.1 Employment ........................................................................................................ 6
   3.1.2 Investment ........................................................................................................... 6
   3.1.3 Supply-chain benefits ......................................................................................... 6
   3.2 Benefits realisation against the Policy Framework .................................................. 7
4 Opportunities for Expanded Economic Development ...................................................... 8
   4.1 Major Infrastructure and Construction .................................................................. 8
   4.2 Programs of Small Infrastructure Projects – eg stimulus package ....................... 8
   4.3 Regional Development ......................................................................................... 8
   4.4 Economic Participation Regions ........................................................................... 8
   4.5 Aboriginal Economic Participation ....................................................................... 9
   4.6 Other Socio-Economic Objectives ......................................................................... 9
   4.7 Design and Specifications ..................................................................................... 9
   4.8 Developing Innovative Products or Services ......................................................... 9
   4.9 Industry Development and Investment Attraction ................................................. 9
   4.10 Private Sector Projects ....................................................................................... 10
5 The Steel Industry ........................................................................................................... 10
   5.1 Purchase of Structural and Reinforcing Steel ...................................................... 10
   5.2 Fabrication of structural work .............................................................................. 10
6 Further Objectives of the Policy .................................................................................... 11
   6.1 Full, fair and reasonable access ............................................................................. 11
   6.2 Value-for-money .................................................................................................... 11
   6.3 International agreements ....................................................................................... 11
7 Enforcing and Reporting ............................................................................................... 11
8 Contact ............................................................................................................................ 11
Introduction

The South Australian Industry Participation Policy is designed to deliver greater economic benefit to the State through more jobs, supply opportunities and investment arising from Government’s expenditure.

I am proud that it focusses on measuring and promoting:

- Employment for residents of South Australia,
- Investment and capital expenditure that builds capacity in the South Australian economy, and
- Use of businesses and supply-chains that employ South Australian residents and invest in the State.

It is driving employment and investment in goods and services contracting as well as our capital works program.

It has proven valuable to infrastructure delivery with very high economic contribution from all the major projects recorded so far including those on the North-South Corridor.

I have also seen how the Steel Industry has benefitted from being a strategic industry to the South Australian Government which has made it more possible for Whyalla to strengthen its economic future.

The Policy operates within the context of relevant national and international agreements and procurement policies to which Australia is a signatory, including free trade agreements and the Australia and New Zealand Government Procurement Agreement (ANZGPA). Consistent with these agreements, the Policy does not mandate local content levels or provide unfair price preferences for local suppliers.

I am also delighted to see how it has strengthened the economy through industry development and investment attraction. Recent projects in technology are delivering both economic development and major savings at the same time.

In delivering both economic contribution and improved value-for-money this should make us all proud to be South Australians.

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
Treasurer
Minister for Finance
Minister for State Development
1. Purpose

The Policy is the high-level framework for delivery of the South Australian Government’s objectives including promoting:

- government expenditure that results in economic development for South Australia
- value for money in public expenditure
- the economic development of the steel industry and other strategically important industries for South Australia, and
- capable businesses based in South Australia being given full, fair and reasonable opportunity to tender and participate in government contracts.

The Policy sets the priorities and methodology for furthering these objectives within a strategic framework. As a high-level framework, it is not intended to describe in detail the way that the Government of South Australia conducts acquisition planning and tendering.

The Policy does not set out who conducts the implementation activities, this is set by guidelines.

The guidelines set out:

- the roles and responsibilities in implementing the Policy
- the requirement under various acquisition and procurement activities
- the thresholds and coverage at which each requirement will apply
- the steps and processes, the actions and requirements applying on businesses and government under any specific requirement, and
- the benefit realisation requirement to apply including reporting obligations.

Tendering requirements, templates and scoring assessment criteria will operate to further the Policy framework.

2. Policy Coverage

The Policy has effect on the following Government of South Australia expenditure:

- Procurement of goods and services including infrastructure and construction.
- Public Private Partnership projects to which the Government of South Australia is a party.
- Federally-funded infrastructure and construction projects managed by the Government of South Australia.
- Private sector projects receiving significant Government of South Australia monetary support or value-in-kind.
- Grants to the private sector.

Government of South Australia expenditure covers both the “public authorities” made or declared and the “prescribed public authorities” declared under the State Procurement Act 2004 and accompanying regulations.

The Policy supersedes earlier versions, although it will not apply retrospectively and earlier versions apply to above expenditure if made prior to this July 2017 version.

Guidelines can exclude some activity from the scope of the Policy.
3. The Policy Framework

3.1. Economic development

The Policy establishes the framework for assessment of the economic contribution between rival tenders and grants within a broader value-for-money framework. For example, when certain economic outcomes are maximised this provides the Government of South Australia with evidence that one tender has more economic contribution than another.

In most cases economic contribution in procurement should be measured by focussing on the labour, investment and supply-chain inputs in performance of government contracts (See Diagram 1 for stylised picture).

The standard implementation of the Policy is designed to deliver economic development by promoting:

- Employment for residents of South Australia.
- Investment and capital expenditure that builds capacity in the South Australian economy.
- Use of businesses and supply-chains that employ South Australian residents and invest in the State.

These have a minimum weighting in a tender assessment criteria of **at least 15 per cent**. The weighting and scoring assessment will measure outcomes that provide for these benefits.

Diagram 1: Core factors of economic contribution in most procurement.

Economic development can also take the form of new investment, increased industry capability and expansion of economic sectors in the State which are likely to generate innovation and growth. These are often high value-add industries (see 4.9 below).

It can also take the form of economic development for disadvantaged and socially excluded groups (see 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 below).
3.1.1 Employment

Employment is an integral driver of economic activity and incomes in South Australia; employment is a critical source of economic contribution for the State from almost all contracts. Accordingly, employment is a vital part of most procurement assessments as to whether one tender has more economic contribution than another.

The simple conclusion is that more retained expenditure in the form of incomes and employment in South Australia, delivers higher economic contribution to the State.

In low value contracts in particular, the labour component is the easiest part of the value-chain to measure in terms of the economic activity. This is particularly true in service based contracts where the supply-chain is limited.

3.1.2 Investment

Investment, or capital expenditure, is a driver of productive capacity and capability for the South Australian economy. In some contracting activity, investment, especially new investment, can deliver very significant economic development outcomes for South Australia (for example see 4.9 below).

The simple conclusion is that new investment can deliver industry capability and new productive capacity in the South Australian economy; also use of existing investment can be a good measure of existing productive capacity.

3.1.3 Supply-chain benefits

In contracting, particularly those of higher value, the supply-chain can be significant in the value of the contract. On large infrastructure projects, the sub-contracting of work packages is often the most integral area of economic value in contract delivery.

Diagram 2 is a stylised picture of how the supply-chain utilises South Australian businesses, labour and capital equipment (plant and machinery). The higher the number, (e.g. 5 Manufacturing), then in general, the higher the gross state product to the South Australian economy from the supply-chain.

The simple conclusion is that a supply-chain which utilises South Australian materials, labour and capital equipment will generally deliver significant economic contribution to the State economy.
3.2 Benefits realisation against the Policy Framework

Benefits realisation is a means of validating whether proposed projects and programs can deliver positive outcomes that specifically support the strategic objectives of the Policy. It provides a practical framework for defining and measuring results from a range of contracts, expenditure and procurement reforms.

The Government of South Australia will monitor how the Policy has performed against the following benefits realisation framework:

- Employment for residents of South Australia.
- Investment and capital expenditure that builds capacity in the South Australian economy.
- Retention of economic benefit to South Australia or a region through the use from suppliers who employ and source inputs from South Australia or a region.
- Expanded economic development (see 4 below), including economic participation for disadvantaged and socially excluded groups.

The approach will account for when incumbents lose a tender and the potential net impact of this. For example, the implementation of the Policy considers both new jobs as well as ongoing jobs and does not promote one over another as being more desirable.

The benefits realisation framework can be applied at both the individual contract level as well as at the aggregate level. For example, for major infrastructure the level of reporting and assurance can be significant against each criterion.
4 Opportunities for Expanded Economic Development

The Government of South Australia has recognised that some expenditure activity has the potential to deliver expanded economic development, including economic participation for disadvantaged and socially excluded groups.

A priority for the Government of South Australia is to grow the economy, create jobs and support the diversification of South Australia's industry sectors. Industry participation from procurement can play a significant role. It is particularly important where the contracted activity is based in an area or sector of the economy which presents an opportunity to address high unemployment or social disadvantage, or in areas of high value-add activity.

The following are areas of focus for implementation of the Policy. In each case the benefits realisation framework will be monitored as a priority.

4.1 Major Infrastructure and Construction

Major infrastructure and major construction projects must have a tailored approach to industry participation that considers the economic development objectives of the Government of South Australia in the project.

The Government of South Australia will also need to consider increasing the industry participation weighting above the minimum level when an acquisition is approved and whether to incorporate the Workforce Participation Policy objectives into the IPP Plan.

4.2 Programs of Small Infrastructure Projects – eg stimulus package

When the Government of South Australia funds a program of interlinked projects and procurements, it will be developed from inception to maximise industry participation and economic development outcomes.

4.3 Regional Development

Public procurement spending in regional areas provides important flow-on benefits in the form of indirect economic contributions, knowledge spill-over and clustering impacts. This encourages regional businesses, directly and indirectly involved in supplying to Government, to invest to improve and expand their operations.

When a contract is to be tendered in a regional area of South Australia, there must be full, fair and reasonable access afforded to businesses in the region. The Government of South Australia will need to consider increasing the industry participation weighting above the minimum level when an acquisition is approved. Industry participation will focus on assessing the benefits of businesses that employ people and use capital equipment from that area.

4.4 Economic Participation Regions

The Government of South Australia may from time to time specify an area of South Australia as an economic participation region, under guidelines set under the Policy. An economic participation region is designed to stimulate economic activity and investment and support employment in the area, and to address economic conditions such as the transition of an economy due to the closure of a large employer or a declining industry.

In any economic participation region, there will be an accompanying tailored approach to industry participation, assessing the benefits of businesses that employ people and use capital equipment from that area. The guidelines may specify that a higher than minimum industry participation weighting will apply.
4.5 Aboriginal Economic Participation

Aboriginal economic participation aims to improve the level of Aboriginal people’s participation in, and benefit from, employment and economic opportunities arising out of Government’s expenditure.

Guidelines provide for the use of single sourcing, if there is an eligible Aboriginal business which meets established criteria. Guidelines also encourage lifting the industry participation weighting where opportunities for Aboriginal economic participation exist. If the weighting is increased, the implementation will be accompanied by tailored measures for Aboriginal participation which are directly relevant to raising economic participation for Aboriginal businesses and employees.

4.6 Other Socio-Economic Objectives

The Government of South Australia may, from time to time, seek to use procurement to drive other socio-economic objectives such as encouraging greater workforce participation or skill development opportunities for particular groups. Often this will be on a case-by-case basis and may entail an increased weighting or tailored industry participation plan requirements to support the objectives of the procurement.

4.7 Design and Specifications

Design of technical specifications and project requirements should provide suppliers that have employed or invested in South Australia with an opportunity to win contracts and sub-contracts.

For the Policy to have maximum impact, project design specifications should not be an obstacle to the South Australian supply of required goods or services. Design specifications should use Australian standards, or standards regularly used in Australia and be performance oriented rather than design specific where possible.

4.8 Developing Innovative Products or Services

Public procurement of innovative goods and services can be an important tool for agencies and authorities to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of public services and address challenges and needs while at the same time helping to create jobs, grow local industry and provide a boost for small and start-up businesses.

By driving innovation from the demand side and the first application of the innovative solutions, public procurement of innovative solutions can enable the government purchaser to avoid the costs of unnecessary features, prevent supplier 'lock-ins' and take account of longer-term public sector requirements.

4.9 Industry Development and Investment Attraction

A further benefit to the South Australian economy can be promoted where increased industry participation weightings are used to attract or develop significant capital investment for the State with the associated industry development.

The Government of South Australia may from time to time establish priority areas of focus in contracting, for generating growth in the South Australian economy. The Government of South Australia will need to consider increasing the industry participation weighting above the minimum level when an acquisition is approved in those areas.

Where a contract has potential to attract a new industry participant to the State or to significantly expand one that already exists here, and this would be in the economic development interests of the State, it should raise the minimum industry participation weighting and focus on achieving this aim in the procurement.

The minimum industry participation weighting should be raised when there are significant growth opportunities for businesses that do, or would expand employment and investment in South Australia (including from research and development) from a specific procurement.
The critical sectors include:

- Health consumables.
- Information technology.
- Advanced manufacturing.

4.10 Private Sector Projects

The Policy will apply to private sector projects that receive significant monetary or value-in-kind support. South Australian businesses should have full, fair and reasonable access to opportunities in these projects, especially for developments which use the civil construction sector.

Guidelines will be required to establish when private sector projects are subject to the Policy.

Where private sector projects are subject to the Policy there will be a tailored approach to industry participation. The approach to industry participation will be commensurate with the level of relative support provided to the project. That approach will bear in mind the high importance of ensuring private investment is promoted and enhanced.

5 The Steel Industry

This section is designed to give the local steel industry a competitive advantage against low quality imports, through mandating that reinforcing and structural steel used on projects contracted by the Government of South Australian fully meets the requirements of the relevant Australian Standards.

5.1 Purchase of Structural and Reinforcing Steel

The following requirements apply to contracts that trigger industry participation plan requirements and involve the purchase of structural and reinforcing steel.

A minimum 20 per cent industry participation weighting must form part of the overall evaluation criteria.

The agency making the acquisition must consult with the Public Projects and Participation Division of Department of State Development as early as possible to facilitate the preparation of a tailored Industry Participation Plan.

Contractors must purchase reinforcing bar and mesh, pre and post tensioning strand structural steel from a steel manufacturer that has been certified by the Australasian Certification Authority for Reinforcing and Structural Steels (ACRS) as complying with AS/NZS 4671, 4672, 1163, 3678, 1594 and 3679.1 and 3679.2 standards.

Contractors must retain records to provide evidence of the supply of steel from an ACRS accredited mill and must make such records available to the Office of the Industry Advocate for review, upon request.

5.2 Fabrication of structural work

The following requirements apply to contracts that include fabrication of structural steelwork.

A minimum 20 per cent industry participation weighting must form part of the overall evaluation criteria.

Steelwork fabricators must be certified to the relevant Construction Category in accordance with the National Structural Steelwork Compliance Scheme (refer http://www.scacompliance.com.au) in accordance with the Fabricator Code of Practice.

Contractors must retain records to provide evidence that the fabrication of steelwork has been undertaken by a company certified to the required Construction Category and must make such records available to the Office of the Industry Advocate for review, upon request.
6 Further Objectives of the Policy

The following further objectives apply to all activity under the Policy.

6.1 Full, fair and reasonable access

The operation and implementation of the Policy is designed to open access to competitive South Australian businesses to win Government of South Australia contracts. The use of weightings and evaluation of economic contribution and economic development in tenders will promote this objective.

6.2 Value-for-money

The size of the industry participation weighting will determine how important economic development and contribution is to the assessment of a tender winner or grant recipient. The remaining evaluation criteria provides for a rounded assessment of value-for-money.

Value-for-money is achieved by balancing the benefits of economic development on the one hand with other criteria such as price, quality and delivery. The setting of the minimum weighting takes this balance into account. This balance will reflect the approach to value-for-money established by the Government of South Australia, including through guidance from the State Procurement Board as well as the public value account methodology included in government decision-making.

When a decision to raise the weighting above the minimum is made in a particular case, it will have reference to balancing these objectives.

6.3 International agreements

The Policy operates within the context of relevant national and international agreements and procurement policies to which Australia is a signatory, including free trade agreements and the Australia and New Zealand Government Procurement Agreement (ANZGPA). Consistent with these agreements, the Policy does not mandate local content levels or provide unfair price preferences for local suppliers. It is a policy that focuses on capital investment, labour, supply chain opportunities and the associated economic contribution to the State.

7 Enforcing and Reporting

Agencies and private parties contracting to the Government of South Australia will be required to comply with this Policy and the supporting procedural and reporting guidelines, including when set separately by the purchasing agency or State Procurement Board.

8 Contact

Public Projects and Participation Division  
Department of State Development  
Level 13, Stillwell House  
99 Gawler Place, Adelaide SA 5000  
Telephone: 08 8226 8967
The SAIPP measures economic benefit to the State of South Australia and assigns an importance to this.

It does not measure where a business operates, for example, where it is located as a head office or branch office (and doesn’t score this).

The SAIPP has legitimately focussed on measuring those parts of the purchase that can add a secondary benefit to the State (beyond item, quality and price etc) and measures them. These are things such employment, investment, innovation and growth in the broader state economy and also use of supply-inputs that promote these outcomes.

The Office of the Industry Advocate has identified in a range of procurements many cases where global and national firms perform extremely well on the IPP Plan assessment. This is because they can demonstrate those outcomes. This has applied in a broad range of categories and industries.


Level 13
99 Gawler Place
Adelaide  SA 6000

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Hi Catherine,

Please see below some points in response to the questions about SA and Free Trade Agreements.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Kind Regards

Nari

- The South Australian Government, together with the Australian Government and all other state and territory governments, is bound by a number of free trade and procurement agreements. The South Australian Industry Participation Policy and Guidelines and the Industry Advocate Bill are designed to operate within the State and Commonwealth Government Policies and Agreements framework.

- The South Australian Industry Participation Policy measures economic benefit to the State of South Australia and assigns an importance to this. It does not measure where a business operates, for example, where it is located as a head office or branch office (and doesn’t score this).

- The policy legitimately focusses on measuring those parts of the purchase that can add a secondary benefit to the State (beyond item, quality and price etc) and measures them. These are things such employment, investment, innovation and growth in the broader state economy and also use of supply-inputs that promote these outcomes.

- There have been many cases where global and national firms perform extremely well on the Industry Participation Plan assessment. This is because they can demonstrate those outcomes. This has applied in a broad range of categories and industries.
Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bauer, Catherine (DPC)" [REDACTED]
Date: 14 August 2017 at 9:34:03 am ACST
To: "Nightingale, Ian (DSD)" [REDACTED] "Loftus, Denise (DSD)"
Subject: ABC radio

Good morning - the minister has asked for a line or two in the event this story is followed up - it was on ABC this morning. Claims that Qld local procurement is putting at risk international trade deals - there was mention of SA in this story. Can we have a response to our procurement policies and impact on trade deals?
Thanks :)

Federal Government accuses Queensland of risking international trade deals

Posted about 2 hours ago Mon 14 Aug 2017, 7:08am

A spat has broken out over Queensland's new local procurement policy. The Federal Government is accusing it of putting dozens of international trade deals and billions of dollars in export revenue at risk. Some countries, including New Zealand, have questioned what the policy means for free trade. But the Queensland Treasurer says the policy is unrelated and the Federal Government is fear-mongering. Curtis Pitt says the Federal Government's refused to be briefed on the policy
TRADE AGREEMENTS AND GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
- OVERVIEW AND ISSUES FOR STATE GOVERNMENTS

Adelaide, 6 September 2017
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT: TRADE AGREEMENTS

• Current commitments that include States and Territories:
  ○ Chile, Japan, Korea, and the US
  ○ also Australia-NZ Government Procurement Agreement

• Prospective commitments:
  ○ Trans-Pacific Partnership
  ○ updated agreement with Singapore

• Under negotiation:
  ○ accession to the WTO GPA
  ○ FTA talks with Peru and Hong Kong

• GP may form part of negotiations with the EU and Pacific Alliance countries
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT AGREEMENT

- Joining the World Trade Organization's Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) guarantees Australian businesses access to a procurement market estimated at US$1.7 trillion annually in 47 other WTO members.
  - China also in the processes of acceding, which would add another US$1.5 trillion dollar market.

- GPA Parties currently considering Australia’s revised offer
  - Offer includes access to sub-central level of government
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OBLIGATIONS

- The key obligation is **non-discrimination** – treatment no less favourable for foreign suppliers than for a domestic supplier.
- Plus certain procedural elements – including supplier complaints.
- Obligations apply only to ‘**covered procurement**’
  - procurement by entities listed in the party’s schedule
  - for goods and/or services listed in the party’s schedule
  - the value of which is above the relevant threshold, and
  - not subject to an exemption – SME policies, Indigenous firms.
- The agreements provide some **flexibility to meet policy goals**, but changes should be looked at carefully in this context.
NEXT STEPS

• DFAT will continue to consult States and Territories on GP negotiations

• Amended SAFTA – entry into force

• Upcoming negotiations
  ◦ GPA – next meeting mid-October
  ◦ Hong Kong –
  ◦ Pacific Alliance – announced but first round yet to be scheduled
CONTACT US

We are always happy to consult on any procurement policy proposals you might be considering and how they might fit with our trade obligations –