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To the Australian Skills Guarantee team

Submission to the Australian Skills Guarantee Discussion Paper

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA is the largest, most diverse and most representative peak business organisation in Western Australia. Our thousands of members come from every sector, from manufacturing and construction to professional and community services, and every region in WA. Our vision is to make WA the best place to live and do business.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the development of the Australian Skills Guarantee. We support the perspectives put forward by the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in its submission, and highlight the following:

- The Australian Skills Guarantee must be easy for businesses to navigate — financial thresholds that define the projects that are covered and the approach to calculating targets must be clear and simple.
- It should not create reporting requirements that duplicate those of existing state and territory government schemes — National Partnership Agreements would cover most federal government funded projects and should be used for requesting the data from the States and Territories who possess this information.
- It should be accompanied by an accountability framework that ensures the policy achieves its desired outcomes — subjecting businesses to the red-tape associated with government procurement targets only makes sense if this delivers tangible policy outcomes.
- The Guarantee must be backed up by measures to support individuals undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships and the businesses that take them on — employer facing incentives (both year 1 commencement incentives and completion incentives) and assistance to apprentices through subsidy and mentoring is the most effective approach.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this consultation process.

Yours sincerely

Chris Rodwell
Chief Executive Officer