**Letter Regarding Proposed Registration of Engineers Due in before COB Sept 8th**

Instructions.

Read and edit as it suits you. Place on your letter head and sign (add a role after your name like CEO Acme Engineering) and send to

MinisterMichaels@sa.gov.au

CBSReforms@sa.gov.au

CC to Office of the Deputy Premier <OfficeOfTheDeputyPremier@sa.gov.au>

If you BCC or send a copy to Donald@eida.asn.au we can compile a list of people who submitted it (optional)

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Dear Hon Andrea Michaels MP,

I am making a submission on the Registration of Engineers scheme. The scheme would damage the South Australian manufacturing, space and defense industries. It would reduce our international competitiveness and does not provide a benefit for consumers.

Scientist David Warren invented the black box recorder, Professor Graeme Clark developed the Cochlear implant and Ben Lexcen designed the winged keel that won the America’s cup, Frank Seeley designed the worlds first all plastic evaporative cooler but it is unlikely that these people meet the proposed requirements for registration. In a clever country we should not restrict who can design products. It stifles innovation.

Australia is in a skills crisis. Engineering work is performed throughout the supply chain. Excluding people from the workforce based on registration criteria that cannot possibly match the diversity of expertise required by industry only makes this worse. It excludes qualified people with essential specialist knowledge. Capable people with years of experience will be cast aside. Most countries do not have registration schemes and the proposed scheme is much broader than the few schemes that exist. How are we to compete in the world with one hand tied behind our back?

We need to keep the public safe. This is done by the many product standards and detailed industry regulations, the Australian Consumer Law, and above all, our interest in our company’s reputation. If there is a particular problem in a particular industry then it should be dealt with by dealing with that problem, and in that industry. That industry should be part of the consultation so a solution can be designed to address the specific issue and be effective. Such consultation should not be dominated by the assessment entities and their members who expect to receive barrier free registration by virtue of their membership.

The NSW government rejected the broad application of engineering registration; they limited registration to the portion of the building sector where existing controls were not sufficient. This may be the greatest act of any state government to support advanced manufacturing, the space industry and defense investment in their state.

I run my business in Australia in a competitive world. I refine the systems we use and optimize the way we work with customers, employees and suppliers to deliver world competitive quality and value for customers. It’s the minimum I have to do to stay in business. In the interest of manufacturing in Australia do not introduce a broad engineer registration scheme. It would impose arbitrary and damaging restrictions for no benefit.

Yours faithfully,