



STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party

MEDIA RELEASE



Stuart Grimley MP Welcomes Support for Alcoa

19 March 2021

Western Victorian MP Stuart Grimley has welcomed the federal government's announcement of support for Alcoa's smelter in Portland. The electricity supply deal has been struck today, ensuring 600 jobs will be saved for at least the next five years.

The deal energy deal struck with AGL, Alinta and Origin will provide much needed support for Alcoa and the Portland community, following discussions of an uncertain future for the operation.

Mr Grimley has raised the need for support of Alcoa a number of times to both the State and Federal Governments urging them to ensure support was offered before the July 2021 contract was due to cease.

Mr Grimley has spoken to Glenelg Shire Council a number of times about the future of Alcoa and the importance of the employer to the Portland and surrounding communities – this news is a great show of support to Victoria's regional and rural townships. He took these concerns to the State and Federal Governments and is pleased to see them come to the table.

Not only does the company create direct jobs for locals, there are many indirect jobs and industries that rely heavily on the success of Alcoa.

Mr Grimley says it is imperative that we can continue to support jobs in rural and regional Victoria.

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"Many smaller communities in regional Victoria depend on one or two major industries. If these businesses were to close in these towns, the flow on effects would be long lasting and devastating.

I have always been a strong advocate for our regional towns in the Western Victoria Region, in particular, their industries and businesses, such as Alcoa. The commitment by the Federal Government to ensure Alcoa has a secure power supply will be welcomed by locals.

I've spoken publicly about the need to support industries and businesses, such as Alcoa and taken these concerns to both the State and Federal Governments.

This announcement is a win for Alcoa, a win Portland and a big win for jobs. I'd like to thank the federal government for their support and also congratulate all parties involved to make this deal come to fruition.

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