



Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan
Minister for Resources and Northern Australia

Mr Joe Kaeser
President and Chief Executive Officer
Siemens AG
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GERMANY

Via email: Joe.Kaeser@siemens.com

Dear Mr Kaeser,

I am concerned to see anti-development protestors targeting Siemens' Australian worksites in an attempt to bully Siemens and its workers. I assure you the Australian Government does not condone these unacceptable standover tactics. I urge you not to be intimidated by the noisy anti-coal minority targeting the Adani Carmichael mine project and companies providing services to it.

The Australian Government supports the Adani Carmichael mine and rail projects, which will create around 1,500 direct jobs, almost 7,000 supporting jobs, and already has more than 800 people working across operations and projects in Queensland. The Carmichael mine has undergone a lengthy and thorough approvals process over the last decade and has received all the required Government approvals to allow mining operations to begin.

The Australian people clearly voted to support Adani at the federal election in May 2019, especially in regional Queensland. It would be an insult to the working people of Australia and the growing needs of India to bow to the pressure of anti-Adani protestors.

Australia plays an important role in continuing to lift people out of poverty by exporting resources, particularly coal, to countries like India. However, there are those that want to deny the rest of the world access to our resources and pull the ladder up behind them. It is immoral for rich Western protestors to campaign against an industry that helps bring millions of people out of poverty, all while using on average 10 times more electricity than the average Indian.

The economic growth of Asian countries has been perhaps the most remarkable event in modern economic history, with extreme poverty globally declining by 75 per cent in the last 30 years thanks to industrialisation and the role of cheap reliable energy. Nearly 40 years ago in East Asia alone, 4 in every 5 people lived in extreme poverty. Now that number is 2.3 per cent.

The Australian Government is committed to supporting our coal industry, supplying Australia's high quality coal for export markets to provide cheap reliable electricity and help lift millions out of poverty. To deny countries like India the 200 million tonnes, in energy equivalent terms, of thermal coal a year that Australia exports would also deny many tens of millions of Indian people access to electricity.

Australian coal is one of the highest quality in the world and we produce it more efficiently than most, meaning it is environmentally better than sourcing low grade coal from other countries. This is important because the International Energy Agency confirmed that coal will remain an important part of the world's energy mix decades into the future, remaining the single largest source of electricity in 2040. By using Australia's higher quality coal, we can bring more cheap reliable electricity to millions of people with less emissions.

If the protestors achieve their goals of ending coal mining by bullying companies into submission, the result would be millions more people without a home, without access to electricity and without as much hope as they otherwise could have.

I urge you not to buckle to the pressure from activists who would have you ignore the voices of the millions of Australians and Indians who support this project and many more like it.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Canavan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Matthew Canavan