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**Submission to Productivity Commission Review of Australia's General Tariff Requirements.**

As a locally based supplier to the Australian Truck manufacturing industry we (Huck Australia Pty. Ltd.) wish to register our concern at the proposal by the commission to reduce tariffs on imported trucks from the current 5% to zero.

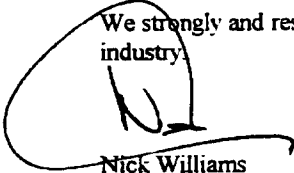
We believe that it is vital for the future of Australian industry that a viable Heavy Duty Truck manufacturing base be supported and that a reduction in tariff will jeopardise the future of the current local manufacturers and, therefore, adversely affect the suppliers to that industry.

Our belief that that a viable local manufacturing industry for Heavy Duty Trucks is vital to the future of Australian Manufacturing is based on our first hand experience with the local producers. These local producers are at the forefront of both manufacturing and process development and innovation and have provided leadership & direction to hundreds of component and sub assembly suppliers who rely heavily on the industry's continued viability.

We are concerned that the employment consequences of a tariff reduction will be dire across the industry. As a significant employer and trainer of skilled and semi skilled labour in Australia we feel that the Truck Industry (and therefore it's supply chain participants) should be afforded at least the same protection as the automotive industry, whose importance to Australian manufacturing is recognised with a level of tariff protection far exceeding that currently afforded to the Heavy Duty Truck industry.

Furthermore, we are concerned at the profitability implications (and therefore the tax collection implications) of the industry that would flow from a further reduction in the already meagre protection and assistance afforded the industry in general.

We strongly and respectfully urge the Commission to review its proposal to reduce tariffs to this industry.



Nick Williams  
Managing Director.

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