

# MEDIA RELEASE



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**8<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

## **Aluminium sector calls for final RET resolution**

The Australian Aluminium Council responded optimistically to the news of Labor leader Bill Shorten's announcement of support for a 33,500 GWh Renewable Energy Target.

"Given Mr Shorten's agreement on a 33,500 GWh target, the circumstances are right for a resolution to be reached between the major parties," Miles Prosser, the Aluminium Council's Executive Director, said.

"Now is the time for both sides to come to the table and immediately resolve the RET."

The future of Australia's four aluminium smelters is closely tied to the resolution of the target. These smelters provide thousands of well-paid jobs and sustain billions of dollars in value-added exports – but their situation is precarious without a stable regulatory foundation for continued investment.

"The issue has already dragged on too long. We believe a timely and constructive end to negotiations can be reached. Further delay will only prolong a crisis of investment in the renewables sector and threats to the viability of major industry that uses electricity," Mr Prosser said.

The risks to investment, jobs and the future of the aluminium industry can be minimised by agreement to a compromised target.

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