



Arrium Announcement Welcomed by Mayors

16 June 2017

Upper Spencer Gulf Mayors have warmly welcomed the announcement of a Korean consortium as the final preferred bidder for Arrium.

Administrators KordaMentha yesterday released details of the consortium, headed by Newlake Alliance Management and JB Asset by Arrium and supported by the POSCO company.

Whyalla Mayor Lyn Breuer said the past year had put a significant strain on the community, with the announcement providing a sense of relief and paving the way for renewed optimism.

"The last fourteen months of uncertainty has certainly taken its toll on our community and our economy. Whilst the sale still has to be finalised, we are very pleased with the announcement – it is a major step forward."

"We are particularly excited by news the final bid proposes a significant investment into new technology at the Whyalla steelworks."

Mayor Breuer also acknowledged the efforts of both the South Australian and Australian Governments in supporting the sale process.

"We have been heartened by the very genuine level of cooperation by both state and federal Ministers and Members of Parliament and reassurance that securing the future of Arrium and the Whyalla steelworks has been of the highest priority by both levels of Government.

Port Augusta Mayor and Chair of Spencer Gulf Cities Association, Sam Johnson said the announcement provides certainty and confidence for the whole of the Upper Spencer Gulf.

"This is a fantastic announcement that will not only impact positively on Whyalla, but Port Augusta and Port Pirie as well."

"Port Augusta is still struggling with the loss of the power station last year, so any positive announcements for Whyalla will certainly help our community as well."

Port Pirie Mayor John Rohde also agrees, saying the benefits will be seen across the whole region.

"Only a few years ago Port Pirie was in exactly the same position as Whyalla. We know first-hand how much this announcement means."

"With the Pirie smelter transformation well underway, progress with the Oz Minerals copper treatment and processing plant and now a strong likelihood of major investment and upgrade to the Whyalla steelworks, we are now much closer to securing the future of the Upper Spencer Gulf as a major player in advanced manufacturing in this state."

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