

# Ian Macdonald

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Mineral Resources  
Minister for State Development



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## NSW Government secures 199 jobs for Wollongong

The NSW Government has secured an \$11.6 million investment in a new copper casting facility at Port Kembla in Wollongong securing 199 jobs, Minister for State Development Ian Macdonald and Minister for the Illawarra David Campbell announced today.

Mr Macdonald said Metal Manufactures Ltd, trading as MM Kembla (MMK), will install a new "horizontal copper billet caster" following an assistance package provided by Industry & Investment NSW.

"This project will retain 199 direct existing jobs at MMK and bring \$11.6 million in new investment to Port Kembla. Additionally the project will provide further indirect flow-on jobs and benefits to the Illawarra and NSW economies.

"The new billet caster will allow MMK to produce billets for copper tube manufacturing and to also recycle scrap copper," Mr Macdonald said.

Mr Campbell noted that currently MMK leases a billet caster on an adjacent site owned by Japanese machinery and commodities trading company Furukawa, but the lease is expiring and Furukawa plans to demolish and remediate the site for sale.

"That's why the NSW Government has stepped in with an assistance package to help MMK invest in a replacement billet caster to ensure its copper pipe business can continue in Wollongong and that 199 jobs are retained," Mr Campbell said.

Member for Wollongong Noreen Hay said MMK is an important regional employer in the Illawarra. It makes copper tubing for the plumbing, refrigeration and air conditioning industries and copper rod and wire for most electrical cable manufacturers in Australia. Additionally, over 40% of MMK's output is exported generating important foreign exchange revenue for Australia.

"Our metal manufacturing industry is supported by a skilled, flexible workforce and access to efficient and leading edge infrastructure," Mrs Hay said

Minister Macdonald said the NSW metal manufacturing industry is Australia's largest accounting for 35 per cent of Australia's metal manufacturing businesses and almost one third of Australia's metal manufacturing employment.

"Our State is home to a large and world class metal manufacturing industry - including copper - which generates billions of dollars for the national economy and is an important enabler of many other manufacturing, service and export industries," Minister Macdonald said.

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