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Premier to lead industry summit to protect NSW jobs

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Premier Nathan Rees will chair a high level summit with senior industry leaders in late February, to protect jobs in NSW in the face of the global economic crisis.

The summit will bring together some of the State's major employers, representatives from sectors most impacted by the global downturn and those with greatest potential for growth.

"NSW, like economies across the globe, faces unprecedented economic circumstances," Premier Rees said.

"With global economic data and forecasts pointing to a downturn in 2009, NSW will feel the effects of a decline in world output and trade and turbulence in the credit market.

"Governments everywhere are looking at ways to keep the economic engines turning."

"We will need to do more than business as usual to protect jobs in NSW."

"Business leaders have experience and insight that I want to tap into."

The Department of State and Regional Development has identified potential for industry and jobs growth as well as sectors requiring employment protection over the next 12-18 months.

"We will be mapping out a response to address these issues."

"Large employing sectors - retailing, construction, business services -are industries where it's critical that government and business work together to protect jobs."

"We need to talk to the leaders in these sectors to decide on real actions the NSW Government can take to support industry jobs."

The Summit will held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre over the 26th & 27th of February.

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