

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write in my capacity as an Executive Director of Tribe Infrastructure Group (<https://www.tribeig.com/>) in relation to including the United Arab Emirate (UAE) as part of an expanded Australian tax treaty network.

Tribe is an infrastructure project developer and advisor headquartered in Abu Dhabi with a team on the ground here in Sydney. In Australia, our business is focused on developing energy from waste (EfW) projects through our joint venture with the Abu Dhabi Government's renewable energy investment arm, Masdar (<https://masdar.ae/>). Together, we developed and now hold 40% of the East Rockingham Waste to Energy Project in Perth (<https://erwte.com.au/>). We're working with Opal Australian Paper and Suez on the Maryvale EfW project in the Latrobe Valley in Victoria and are leading a consortium shortlisted to develop an EfW in the Parkes Special Activation Precinct. Together, our pipeline of energy from waste project represents over \$2bn of new investment, led by FDI from the UAE into Australia, creating hundreds of permanent jobs and making a meaningful contribution to the development of a Circular Economy for Australia.

As a member of the Australia UAE Business Council, Tribe strongly supports the signing of a double taxation agreement (DTA) between Australia and the UAE. We believe a DTA would provide opportunities for our company to expand its presence in Australia, attracting more FDI into Australia from more and different sources in the UAE (e.g. UAE pension funds), expanding Australia's capital base with aligned long-term investment partners.

As noted by DFAT, the UAE is Australia's largest trading partner in the Middle East and the 17th largest trading partner overall. Our two-way goods and services trade was worth \$10.4 billion in FY2018-19.

It should be noted that Australia was selected as one of ten key countries under the UAE's 10x10 program, which aims to increase exports to priority countries by 10 per cent in 10 key markets.

We welcome the recent official visit to the UAE by the Hon Dan Tehan MP, Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, where he discussed the possibility of a trade agreement with the UAE. We believe a DTA alongside a trade agreement will have significant benefits for businesses in both countries.

A DTA between Australia and the UAE would align us with our partners and competitors from countries such as India, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, and the UK, all of whom already have DTA agreements with the UAE. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

Edward Nicholas

Executive Director