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Multinational tax integrity and enhanced tax transparency

The Mining and Energy Union thanks Treasury for the opportunity to have input on the consultation paper issued in August.

It is agreed that the matters raised are substantial and must be addressed. The MEU has a long history of having views with respect to taxes, royalties and related transparency in the resources sector. Our objective with respect to those issues is that the industry which employs our members contribute strongly to the Australian economy and broader community and that it be clear that it is doing so.

To this end the union has represented the Australian Council of Trade Unions in efforts to get the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative implemented in Australia since 2011. MEU staff also work as the nominee of Global Unions on the GRI's Global Sustainability Standards Board, which has issued the GRI 207 Tax standard to which the consultation paper refers.

The union has consulted with the Centre for International Corporate Tax Accountability and Research (CICTAR) and the Tax Justice Network (TJN) on their major submission to this Treasury consultation. We urge that the Australian Government give strong consideration to their submission.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Maher General President