

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



**The Hon. John Howard
Prime Minister**

**The Hon. Tony Rundle
Premier**

**The Hon. John Moore
Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism**

Friday, 18 October 1996

253/96

An independent review of Tasmania's industry and employment opportunities will be conducted by The Hon. Peter Nixon AO. The study will update a report produced by Sir Bede Callaghan in 1977 and assist the Federal and State Governments to develop strategies and policies for optimising Tasmania's economic growth.

The decision to conduct the review follows representations by Tasmanian coalition members during the election campaign and the recent announcement of Federal Government funding in the Budget on August 20.

The appointment of Mr Nixon, a former senior Federal Minister, was announced jointly today by the Prime Minister, John Howard, the Premier of Tasmania, Tony Rundle and the Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism, John Moore in Hobart.

The Prime Minister said that he was pleased that Mr Nixon had agreed to chair the review.

"Mr Nixon is an eminent Australian with extensive experience in industry and government," Mr Howard said. "He is well placed to lead such an important inquiry and draw together the diverse issues being considered in this study."

Mr Rundle said the study was of critical importance to Tasmania.

"The broad terms of reference will include analysis of the potential for new industries and the expansion of existing industries in Tasmania.

"This review will provide the State with information essential for the future economic development of Tasmania. The inquiry Secretariat will be based in the Department of Premier and Cabinet in Hobart and will have access to all the information it needs for the review," he said.

Mr Moore said Tasmania's contribution to Australia was important, and that the review would enable the State's special circumstances and natural advantages to be evaluated.

"The new study will provide advice to both Governments on how Tasmania can best use its resources," he said.

The review is being funded by a Budget allocation of \$150,000 from Mr Moore's portfolio. It is expected Mr Nixon will be able to report back to Mr Rundle and Mr Moore by 30 June 1997.

Mr Nixon said he was delighted to have been asked to conduct such an important study.

"I look forward to gathering views from the community and government and developing them into a report which will be of significance to the people of Tasmania," he said.

The terms of reference and Mr Nixon's curriculum vitae are attached.

Contact:	David Gazard	Peter Hazelwood	Cheryl Cartwright
CMR304	Mr Howard's Office	Mr Rundle's Office	Mr Moore's Office
	06/277744	0362/333464	06/2777580

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1 The study is to inquire into and report on industry development and employment in Tasmania. It will draw on and update a previous study, chaired by Sir Bede Callaghan, which reported in June 1977.
- 2 The study will:
 - a identify areas or sectors in which the Tasmanian economy has or can develop a sustainable competitive advantage, and the resultant opportunities for and impediments to sustainable employment growth;
 - b identify issues to be addressed by all governments and the private sector to facilitate sustainable economic and employment growth in Tasmania;
 - c advise on strategies to assist Tasmania to increase its international competitiveness and export performance, and on appropriate consultative arrangements between governments and industry.
- 3 Specific issues to be addressed by the inquiry will include:
 - a strategies to increase investment in Tasmanian industries and firms
 - b opportunities for value-adding to Tasmania's resource industries, taking account of environmental, community and social issues
 - c the potential for non-resource industries (including elaborately transformed manufactures, eco-tourism and location neutral high technology industries) to develop in Tasmania, and strategies to facilitate their development
 - d the impact of competitive reforms and how they may be better progressed, taking account of their implementation nationally and the Commonwealth's international obligations
 - e strategies to promote Tasmania nationally and internationally as a source of goods and services and as a location for investment
 - f strategies to implement the inquiry's recommendations.
- 4 The study will take into account relevant Commonwealth policies and other sources of information, such as relevant Industry Commission Reports.
- 5 The inquiry will consult with the State and Commonwealth Governments to enable the study to reflect the latest views, information and statistics from government departments and agencies in its report.
- 6 The inquiry will report jointly to the Commonwealth Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism and the Treasurer of Tasmania.
- 7 The inquiry will aim to report by 30 June 1997.

CURRICULUM VITAE HON. PETER J. NIXON, AO

- Retired from Parliament 11 March 1983
- Minister for Primary Industry 1979-83
- Minister for Transport (including Aviation) 1975-79
- Postmaster-General 1975
- Minister for Shipping and Transport 1971-72
- Minister for Interior 1967-71
- Member House of Representatives 1961-83

CONFERENCES, DELEGATIONS AND VISITS

Attended OECD Agriculture Ministers' Conference, Paris in March 1980; New Delhi, Dacca, Jakarta. Australia-Japan Ministerial Meeting, 1972, 1977, 1979 and 1981; and World Food Council Meeting, Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, 1981 and Acapulco, Brazil, 1982. Ministerial Transport Councils in Belgrade, Greece and Paris. South Pacific Forum New Zealand, Western Samoa and New Guinea.

Negotiated first Agricultural Accord when guest of Government of People's Republic of China, 1981.

DIRECTORSHIPS

- Chairman Southern Cross Broadcasting (1984 -)
- Chairman Gippsland and Northern Co. Ltd (1983-92)
- Chairman/Director Associated Container Transport Australia (December 1983-92 retired)
- Director Emery Worldwide Advisory Board (1983-88)
- Director Linfox Corporation (1988 -)
- Director Budget Corporation (1988-91)
- Chairman Interstate Rail Services Committee (November 1994 - December 1995)

PERSONAL

- Born Orbost, 22 March 1928
- Educated at Orbost, Wesley College, Melbourne
- Grazier, 'Macclesfield', Orbost
- Married Sally J.T. Dahlsen, Bairnsdale, Victoria
- Three children - Joanne, Mark and Christopher
- Member, Institute of Public Affairs
- Commissioner, Australian Football League (1984-91)
- Trustee, Melbourne Cricket Ground (1986-91)
- Freeman City Jakarta, Athens
- Officer Order of Australia (1993)
- Chairman, Weary Dunlop Statue Appeal (1993-95)
- Chief Commissioner, East Gippsland Shire (1995 -)

CLUBS

- Melbourne Club
- Australian Club
- V.R.C.
- V.A.T.C.
- M.C.C

HOBBIES

- Racing
- Fly Fishing