



**CIVIL CONTRACTORS  
FEDERATION**

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# Media Release

## For immediate release

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### PEAK CIVIL CONSTRUCTION BODY CALLS FOR EXPANDED INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Australia's peak civil construction representative organisation has welcomed the release of the Federal Government's 10-year infrastructure plan in this year's federal budget, however, it has expressed disappointment that no *new monies* have been allocated to the federal infrastructure budget.

Civil Contractors Federation, National Chief Executive Officer, Chris Melham said, whilst new infrastructure projects have been announced, no additional money has been allocated to the existing 10 year rolling \$75 billion infrastructure program.

"The projects announced in the Budget will be funded from previous allocations, and therefore there is no new investment, or incentives to 'kickstart' the economy following the collapse of the mineral resource boom.

The CCF continues to urge the Federal Government to fully embrace 'good debt' policy and commit to an expanded infrastructure investment program.

"Many economic commentators, including the current and previous Reserve Bank Governors, have proposed a debt-funded infrastructure push as the most cost-effective way for the Federal Government to stimulate Australia's weakening economy," Mr Melham said.

Contractors and suppliers to the civil construction industry have already felt the impact of falling construction work on their businesses and the near-term outlook remains challenging, to say the least – exceptions being NSW and Victoria.

"The CCF is calling for a new phase of productive public infrastructure investment by taking advantage of low interest rates, shovel-ready projects with proven productivity benefits initially, and then on maintaining a rolling, long term infrastructure investment program that provides industry and community certainty", Melham said.

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#### **About the Civil Contractors Federation**

*The Civil Contractors Federation (CCF) is the peak employer body representing over 2,000 companies engaged in civil construction in every jurisdiction of Australia. CCF Members are responsible for the construction and maintenance of Australia's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, pipelines, drainage, ports and utilities. CCF members also play a vital role in the residential and commercial building construction industry by providing earthmoving and land development services including the provision of power, water, communications and gas.*

*Constructing Australia's Infrastructure*