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CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION STATEMENT ON FEDERAL BUDGET

Australia's peak national body for the civil construction sector, Civil Contractors Federation National (CCF) has welcomed the Government's retention of the \$120 billion, 10-year infrastructure program confirmed in the 2023/2024 Budget.

"CCF National CEO Chris Melham said the CCF now looks forward to participating in the independent review of the \$120 billion infrastructure program, where we will advocate for sustained growth of federal infrastructure investment to build Australia's economic and social wellbeing.

With the Federal Government forecasting difficult economic conditions over the coming years, it is timely to ensure the maximum return for every tax payer dollar invested in civil infrastructure which has an economic multiplier of 3:1 and employs seven Australians for every \$1 million spent", he said.

CCF also looks forward to bringing to the attention of Governments and the independent review the results of CCF's 2023 National Infrastructure Market Capacity Survey (click here), which is currently open for industry input.

The Survey will provide valuable information regarding the civil construction industry's productive capacity throughout the sector and across Australia," he concluded.

The CCF also welcomes the Federal Government's commitment to rebuild and modernize the skills sector which must also include private training organisations who play an equally critical role in bringing through the next generation of skilled workers into the construction sector and upskilling the existing workforce", Melham said.

In closing, the CCF also welcomed the allocation of \$1.4 billion through the 'Powering the Regions Fund' to support industrial decarbonisation and develop new clean energy industries in the regions, and the \$2 billion hydrogen headstart commitment for larger scale renewable hydrogen projects.

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