

Hon Jay Weatherill MP

Premier

Hon Martin Hamilton-Smith MP

Minister for Defence Industries

Tuesday, 26 April 2016

Future submarines an historic win for South Australia

The State Government has celebrated the news that the next fleet of future submarines will be built in Adelaide as a major win for South Australia.

The announcement, which was made by the Prime Minister in Adelaide this morning, is a significant step towards the transformation of South Australia's economy, away from traditional manufacturing towards high tech manufacturing.

The delivery of 12 submarines from Adelaide also confirms a sustained high tech naval industry for South Australia for decades.

Premier Jay Weatherill will fly out soon to meet with DCNS in France to maximise the total South Australian workforce and seek to deepen our regional relationship with Cherbourg in France – the home of DCNS' submarine building facility.

Background

Today's announcement follows the Defence White Paper confirmation that the \$35 billion Future Frigate program will occur in South Australia and last week's decision to commence the build program of Offshore Patrol Vessels in Adelaide in 2018.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jay Weatherill

Today's announcement is a complete victory for our campaign to have the 12 submarines built in Adelaide.

I want to thank all South Australians for standing with us in our campaign.

We fought to defend SA workers when their skills and capabilities were under attack. We fought for 12 submarines when it looked like we were getting 8 – and we won. We fought for a local build when it looked like we were getting an overseas build – and we won.

I also welcome the Prime Minister's announcement that Australian steel will be used in this build of the future submarines – this news will be music to the ears of the people of Whyalla.

DCNS may have won the contract to deliver the 12 submarines, but the real winner today is South Australia.

Quotes attributable to Defence Industries Minister Martin Hamilton-Smith

This is a great day for South Australia. We said it must be done here and now it will be.

The South Australian Government acted swiftly to save this work for Australians and we have delivered.

Common sense has prevailed but not before a vigorous and necessary public debate led by South Australia.

This decision signals the transformation of our economy towards high end, advanced manufacturing and that will attract global attention.

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