



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release

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STEEL PIPE JOB CUTS

Speaking from an Economics Committee hearing with the Governor of the Reserve Bank at the Gold Coast, Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson today said she was angry that more jobs had been lost in Newcastle.

Australian Tube Mills - formed from the merger of Onesteel and Smorgan Steel - announced today that it will cut 235 jobs from its operation in Mayfield.

"We are a resilient community, but this is another blow on top of Telstra's recent decision to cut 219 jobs and the latest interest rate rise," Ms Grierson said.

"I have today spoken with management, and will be working with them, unions and workers to try to minimise the impact of this decision."

"I welcome assurances that retraining opportunities will be provided, and that all workers' entitlements will be guaranteed."

"However, there is no way we can make up for the loss of a family's livelihood."

"What we can do is try to create opportunities for those 235 families."

"Onesteel's investment in the Hunter has always been valued - it has grown with community support since the closure of BHP."

"So I'm disappointed that it chose to cut jobs in Newcastle while creating jobs elsewhere."

"We've now got to work together to create an environment where innovative businesses can grow and stay, rather than shrink and move."

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