



Senator Hollie Hughes
Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region

Media Release

7th October 2021

Government supporting Newcastle business to commercialise its innovation

The Morrison Government is supporting one of the most long-standing businesses in Newcastle to take its innovative Recycling and Clean Energy National Manufacturing project to the next level.

Commonwealth Steel Company Pty Ltd (**Commsteel**) located in Waratah is one of 10 projects that will share in more than \$5.7 million from the latest round of grants under the **Government's \$30 million Commercialisation Fund** to enable the recovery and reuse of carbon and hydrogen from waste rubber products in their Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) steelmaking process.

The grants support businesses to undertake commercialisation activities such as research and development, investing in technologies that will assist them to scale up their operations, and secure further investment to grow even more.

Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region Hollie Hughes said Commsteel will use its \$750,000 grant to launch its innovation into new local and international markets.

"Commsteel has been operating in Waratah since 1918 and is a fantastic local success story. By commercialising their Polymer Injection Technology (PIT) they will simultaneously reduce their reliance on imported carbonaceous materials from China, reduce problematic waste streams going to landfill, and improve their steelmaking production and energy efficiency.

Commsteel are not only taking on the world with their innovation, they are also bringing new jobs and other economic benefits to our Hunter Region community," Senator Hughes said.

"I congratulate Commsteel on this innovative project as they progress to the next level."

The Commercialisation Fund supports projects within the Government's six National Manufacturing Priority areas, which are: Medical Products; Food and Beverage; Resources Technology and Critical Minerals Processing; Recycling and Clean Energy; Defence and Space.

Grants are between \$100,000 and \$1 million, with funding to make up no more than 50 per cent of total project costs.

The fund is administered by the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC), in collaboration with the CSIRO, and the five other Industry Growth Centres: AustCyber, Food Innovation Australia Ltd (FIAL), MTPConnect, METS Ignited, and National Energy Resources Australia (NERA).

For more information on the Commercialisation Fund and other successful projects go to <https://www.amgc.org.au/projects/>