

# Media Release

20 March 2025

## **Council welcomes Prime Minister's support for local aluminium industry**

Gladstone Regional Council has welcomed comments from Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese regarding the role of the aluminium industry in Gladstone and Central Queensland, particularly through Rio Tinto's operations, in supporting local employment and the national economy.

The Prime Minister's recent press conference at the Rio Tinto owned Boyne Smelter highlighted the contribution of value-adding industries like aluminium production in Australia, while outlining plans to focus on decarbonisation and enhance the global competitiveness of Australian steel and aluminium.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the aluminium industry is a key part of Gladstone's economy, sustaining thousands of local jobs.

"Rio Tinto's operations here are significant and any focus on growing manufacturing industries is important to our region," Mayor Burnett said.

"Supporting a Future Made In Australia will provide opportunities for Gladstone Region workers and businesses.

"I look forward to hearing about plans to bolster Australian-made products in next week's Federal Budget."

Visit [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/economic-information](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/economic-information) to learn more about Council's Economic Development strategy, including access to the Gladstone Region Economic Transition Roadmap (2022-2032) and 2025 Australian Federal Election priorities.

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