

Press Statement — Embargo 6am Monday 18 November

The ACIL Tasman Merger –

Largest Economics Advisory Consultancy in Australia

A new economic advisory and consulting powerhouse was created today through the merger of Tasman Economics and ACIL Consulting – to form ACIL Tasman. The new entity will have its head office in Melbourne – but with major offices in Canberra, Brisbane, Sydney and Perth, and representation in Darwin and Adelaide.

The CEO of the new entity is to be Nick Morris, founder of London Economics and since 2000 the chief executive of Tasman Economics. The executive chairman of the new entity, and founder of Tasman group including Tasman Institute, Dr Michael Porter, said “this is an exciting new creation that could greatly strengthen economic, business and government reform agendas in all areas in the region. Current crises such as water and Asia-Pacific governance, as well as energy, regional Australia, transport and environment issues would be well served by the new group”.

David Trebeck, founder and CEO of ACIL Consulting and executive chairman (Canberra) of the new entity, said he was delighted at the possibilities ACIL Tasman now created in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. “The many and increasing governance problems in the public and private sectors suggest that ACIL Tasman is timely – a genuinely independent group with substantial experience within the corporations and governments of Australia and the region. ACIL Tasman has strong expertise in regional and agricultural issues, energy, transport, health, infrastructure access, Defence and government relations, among many other fields.

“Nick Morris, the CEO, brings substantial experience from London and Europe, and from his role in Australian economic reforms since 1990. Nick’s experience spans electricity, gas, regulatory design and more recently the need and mechanisms for improved federal and state financial management and revenue sharing in Australia”.

“The new ACIL Tasman team of professionals will be 60 strong around the country and will be building on recent successes including gas market developments, electricity trading, pipe line and access issues and reforms in countries as diverse as China, Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia”. Tasman has been actively involved in best practice reforms across all sectors and States in Australia and New Zealand.

Dr Porter, who headed Project Victoria, the National Priorities Project and other reform agendas in Australia in the 1980s and 1990s, indicated that “Australian reforms and their quality had given us a competitive edge in the region. Australians and their reform agendas were trusted”.

It was noted by Nick Morris that “sound economic and business principles and good governance were the key to economic development and progress in reducing inequality. This did not require special models for our neighbouring countries, but it did require specialists who knew the business. This is where the ACIL Tasman venture can deliver”.

Further Information:

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