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Statement: Industrial development at Whyalla

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date... 26th August 1976

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
228 4811

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AT WHYALLA

The State Government has appointed a working party chaired by one of South Australia's leading industrialists to urgently study the industrial structure of Whyalla and to recommend ways of promoting the city's industrial development, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, announced today.

The Committee's first meeting will be in Whyalla next Wednesday and Thursday. Announcing the Committee's formation the Premier said the Government was confident of Whyalla's future, despite the Federal Government's completely unjustified decision not to give further support to the shipbuilding industry in the city.

"The Committee will advise the Government on steps which should be taken to ensure that Whyalla's present resources are fully employed in the next few years," Mr. Dunstan said.

"The Committee Chairman will be Mr. R.C. Rainsford, Deputy Chairman of Chrysler Australia Limited, and other members will be the Mayor of Whyalla, Mrs. A.C. Ekblom, Mr. J. Risby from the BHP Company, and Mr. S. Dickenson of the Whyalla Combined Unions Council.

"Senior officers of the Trade and Development Division and the Policy Division of the Premier's Department and officers of the Department of Labour and Industry will also be on the Committee."

Mr. Dunstan said the terms of reference would be for the Committee to study and report on:

- . The courses of action open to make maximum use of Whyalla's existing resources in future years
- . The situation of the shipbuilding industry and the resources it draws on
- . The range of skills at the shipyards and of any underemployed labour in Whyalla
- . The possibility of transferring manufacturing industries to Whyalla to use the existing workforce and steel products, or an extended range of steel products from the city.



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- . The steps necessary to set up any recommended manufacturing activities in Whyalla.

Mr. Dunstan said that he was delighted at the response to invitations to join the working party from local government, union and industry groups.

"We have been fortunate in obtaining the services of such capable members for the working party's report^{which} will set out firm guidelines for Whyalla's further growth into the 1980's", he added.

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