

# News Release **Premier Jay Weatherill**

Treasurer  
Minister for State Development  
Minister for the Public Sector  
Minister for the Arts

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

## Black day for Holden workers as Liberals turn their backs on SA

Premier Jay Weatherill says today is a black day for South Australia, with Holden announcing it will close its Elizabeth plant.

Mr Weatherill has committed to standing by Holden workers, their families and the people of the northern suburbs in the light of the devastating news.

He has condemned Prime Minister Tony Abbott for failing to support South Australia.

“Holden’s decision to close its Elizabeth plant is devastating news for the workers and families who rely on the automotive industry,” Mr Weatherill said.

“Tony Abbott and his Coalition Government have turned their backs on this industry and the people in it.

“Holden had made it abundantly clear that if the support committed by the previous federal Labor Government remained on the table it would stay in Australia.

“By cutting funding and, in the past week, by attacking Holden, Tony Abbott and the Coalition have forced Holden out of Australia.

“My first concern is with the workers, their families and everyone connected with the car industry.

“This affects up to 13,000 jobs in South Australia.”

Mr Weatherill said the social and economic cost of the decision would be enormous.

“The Federal Government will have a massive price to pay,” he said.

“I will begin discussions about that with Tony Abbott tomorrow.

“South Australians have always demonstrated their enormous resilience in the face of adversity.

“We will face this challenge, we will overcome it and we will emerge stronger.”

**Premier Jay Weatherill will be available at the State Administration Centre from 3.45pm**

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