both of these facilities have been completed, the demand will have risen globally by that much. So this facility signals that Australia has actually entered into the second phase—that is, the refining.

To get a better sense of the scale and pace of demand in this industry, you just need to have a look at the decisions of global car manufacturers to increase their production of electric vehicles. Volvo, Nissan, Ford, Volkswagen, Mercedes and many others predict that electric vehicle sales will make up double digits of their market share in the very early 2020s.

But it's not just in the motor vehicle industry that lithium is used. It's also used in many other industries, including aircraft components and anywhere there is a weight-sensitive requirement for energy storage.

Australia is very well placed to develop as a competitive player through the remainder of the value chain, particularly taking into account the abundance of lithium—and not just lithium but also many other minerals required for some of these new technologies. For example, we also have copper, nickel, cobalt and aluminium, which places us in the box seat to take advantage of these emerging technologies. What does that actually mean for Western Australia and also Australia? Western Australia could quite rapidly dominate the global supply of lithium batteries, the development of new applications for these minerals and new technologies development, creating decades of new jobs within Western Australia and a new skill base for people in Western Australia across adjacent industries. Australia, and Western Australia in particular, clearly has the capacity to become a global player in these direct battery inputs, with the additional benefits directly supporting energy storage and innovation in both industry and academia. But, like the creation of any new industry, it won't just happen. The global 'lithium valley' that I envisage can and should be developed. As I said, it can be done using existing Western Australian resources, our smarts and the technologically capabilities that we have within our state. We now have to have the confidence and a shared vision to implement this new industry.

What will it actually take? I've had a look at overseas experience and some of the factors of success across value chain production. We'd need to leverage across one of five key areas. First of all, you need the political and economic desire to generate more value and more employment in country. Clearly we already have that in Australia, and we particularly have that in Western Australia. We also need the political, economic and academic desire to develop in-country research and development of these new technologies. We clearly have that. We also need the economic and political desire and belief that we can support downstream emerging industries in our country—that we don't have to dig it out of the ground and send it elsewhere to value-add anymore. There are, of course, economic balance of trade considerations and trade security through access to a broader range of existing and new customers. Clearly, in Western Australia, we have many of these preconditions, but we do now need to raise awareness and increase confidence within our own state and country that it can happen. In fact, as I've said, $700 million is being invested in two new refinery and production processes in Western Australia. Now we have to work together to make the rest of it happen.

The Lithium report, released last year, made a number of very sensible recommendations on how we can work together across the three levels of government to implement this. The first set of recommendations speak about raising awareness of Australia's lithium opportunities and ensuring the development of this industry along with adjacent industries as a priority for the federal government. The second set of recommendations are about ensuring that the federal government and state governments get the policy settings right. These include state governments looking at new state agreements, streamlining approval processes across a range of agencies to attract new investment and reviewing industry concessions. For the Commonwealth government, the report recommended the funding and facilitation of enabling infrastructure and research through organisations such as the CSIRO, the NAIF and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation.

Other nations are not blind to the opportunities in the lithium industry and other associated metals and are rapidly developing the industrial capability to capture a share of this growing market. This is something that we still have an advantage in delivering, but we haven't got a lot of time if we are going to take the production, the refinery, of our own metals into the 21st century. Western Australia has always been at its best when our state and federal government representatives work together with industry to develop new opportunities. We did that 50 years ago with the iron ore industry, and I believe it is time to once again do it, so that Western Australia can become the new 'lithium valley'. The future is very bright indeed for this new industry.

Tangentyere Women’s Family Safety Group

Senator McCARTHY (Northern Territory) (13:45): Nearly 12 months ago, in Alice Springs, more than 300 people marched in solidarity with local Aboriginal women who are striving to make their communities safer places for children and families. The action was initiated by a group of Aboriginal women from town camps in Alice Springs—the Tangentyere Women’s Family Safety Group. In Arrernte, ‘tangentyere’ means ‘coming together’.
The Tangentyere Women's Family Safety Group formally began only a few years ago, in 2015, to train Aboriginal women living in the town camps of Alice Springs to identify family violence and its risks and triggers. Since that time, the women have gone from strength to strength. To date, they have trained 165 women in Alice Springs, including 25 women in one town camp where there are only five houses. Think about that: 25 women in one town camp where there are only five houses. Do the maths on that. It goes to show that the issue of housing and overcrowding is very real and a very real challenge for the Tangentyere women.

The women have developed a range of culturally appropriate resources to educate and inform women and organisations, they've advocated and lobbied about family and domestic violence issues in the Northern Territory, and they have taken a stand against violence in their communities. They have stood up and said: 'Enough. This is not good enough.' Most importantly, they have developed their own solutions for their own communities, and they are making an enormous difference.

The women from the Tangentyere Women's Family Safety Group were tired of being overlooked and not being heard, especially by the wider community, on issues such as family and domestic violence. They have been doing something about it, and they are continuing to do something about it. Since the success and support they received from that march in Alice Springs last year, they have been planning to bring their message directly to Canberra, to make sure that we, the political leaders in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, listen to their stories and, most importantly, their solutions, and that we learn from them and also support their work. After a year of fundraising, specifically for this journey to Canberra, that's what they've done: 11 women from the town camps of Alice Springs travelled to Canberra so that Canberra could take notice of them.

To all those who asked how these women got to Canberra, and to all those who could only criticise and ask where this money was coming from to get these women to Canberra, let me repeat for you: the women funded themselves. They believed in themselves and their families, and, over the last 12 months, they raised their own funds for the trip to Canberra. They came here together and travelled together, to ask us to listen to a wide range of Aboriginal voices, regarding family safety and domestic violence. They asked us to commit to genuine collaboration and partnerships when governments are developing policies around domestic violence. They told us clearly that Aboriginal, community based organisations need long-term, secure investment in grassroots programs. They told us Aboriginal people have family and domestic violence solutions. They have the solutions, and they must be a part of the decision-making process.

I say to this Senate and to the members of the House of Representatives: I hope we heard them and I hope we continue to hear them. I hope Australia hears them. I hope we have seen the heartache that family violence has caused these women and their families. Why do I hope that? Because it may touch your heart when you sit down to make decisions on policies that impact First Nations people.

I hope we have understood these mothers, grandmothers, sisters and aunties and how they care deeply and are so totally committed to the safety of their families. In the words of group member Marlene Hayes: I'm doing it for my daughter, and I'm doing it for my grandmothers, my mothers, my aunties, and I also will be reflecting on two of my aunties who are not here today, and I'm in doing it in honour of those two ladies.

All us women, we've been victims. The violence always goes into the homes and it starts off with racism and arguing and then a fight starts and it's got to stop.

She also said:
It put a tear in my eyes that we're talking to the Government, and teaching them that we've got feelings too, us women.

These women were empowered by this visit. They laid their flowers in the courtyard. I take a moment to digress and thank very much our gardeners at Parliament House for their leniency as the women held sorry camp on the lawns here at Parliament House in memory of the many women they have lost through domestic violence. As the coordinator of the program, Shirleen Campbell, said, these women are not just statistics; they are real people, and they're tired of being held accountable for the criminal actions of individual members of their wider community. These women said clearly that they were here representing the women and girls in the town camps of Alice Springs. There are 16 town camps around Alice Springs, and these women would not presume to speak for other people or any other community. But they are the leaders and voices of their communities in these town camps in Alice Springs, and they are speaking to all Australians. Their voice matters, and so do their stories.

We should be listening, as they said, to a wide range of Aboriginal voices regarding family and domestic violence issues. Every community should have a voice and has a right to be heard. We have First Nations women who are always talking to one another about the impacts of violence. I only need to reflect on my own family situation, with my families in the gulf region—the Yanyuwa, the Garawa, the Mara and the Kudanji peoples. We talk a lot about the violence that impacts our families. My aunties, my sisters, my grandmothers—we talk. Sometimes our voices can be loud and strong, and other times our voices still need encouragement.
As the Tangentyere women told us, 'Listen to us, stand with us and support us.' I say to the Senate and the House of Representatives, to parliamentarians, to the media, to all listening to this: we have to listen to these women if we want to believe in building a better Australia. We must do it while strengthening culture and family connections. If we are to change anything, power and decision making must be returned to Aboriginal people at the grassroots. There are so many critics and there are so many arguments against the reasons for empowering First Nations people. A lot of that centres around confusion—the myth, the mistake, of believing that culture is a problem. Culture is not the problem. It's the systemic issues of the Westminster system, which still fails to grapple with the enormity of respecting First Nations people, fails to include First Nations people, fails to empower First Nations people to rise above the poverty and the endless cycle of disadvantage. No-one wants to see this breakthrough more than the First Nations people. Tangentyere is an example of this—an organisation that is controlled and run by the town campers of Alice Springs. I urge you, senators, if you're visiting Alice Springs: take the time, pick up the phone and visit the women of Tangentyere.

**Honey Industry**

**Senator COLBECK** (Tasmania) (13:55): I rise today to make a contribution in support of the manuka honey industry in Australia, particularly in my home state of Tasmania. Canberra are used to pronouncing manuka differently than we do back home in Tasmania. The name manuka goes back a long way in my home state of Tassie. In fact, the leptospermum plants from which the manuka honey derives were first recorded in Tasmania back in the 1880s and the first manuka honey was recorded as being produced in South Australia from plants deriving from Tasmania in the 1830s. It was with some pleasure that I, along with my Tasmanian colleague Senator Bushby and the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Mr Littleproud, was able to announce $165,000 for the Australian Manuka Honey Association—funded under the Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation program—to assist and support the Australian Manuka Honey Association in addressing some emerging issues in international markets and to share manuka honey production methods overseas.

It's a very important time in history for the Australian industry, particularly given attempts by our friends across the ditch in New Zealand to effectively register manuka honey as a trademark and as something of their own that is produced only in New Zealand. In my mind the Kiwis should not be allowed to get away with this. As I've indicated, this product comes from a plant that originates in Tasmania. It has a history going back a long way. It is an important product for the Australian honey industry, particularly the Tasmanian honey industry.

The suggestion that New Zealand should be able to trademark the name, quite frankly, to me is a complete absurdity. If I could send a clear message to our friends in the UK, where they are attempting to do that right now, it would be: 'Don't fall for this. The product clearly originates from Australia and Tasmania.' I say to those in the UK and in New Zealand: 'We don't mind sharing the name of the product. The global market for this variety of honey is big enough for us both.' It is a very high-value product and it has medicinal properties, which is one of the things that makes it valuable. They don't have to pull some sort of smart alec stunt, like trying to trademark the name for themselves. We can work together.

I know the view of the Australian Manuka Honey Association is that this market is big enough for us all. We can work together to market this great quality, high-value product around the world into the key markets, particularly the UK and Asia. We can share that name between us. We don't have to try to do each other over, as is occurring by New Zealand trying to trademark the name against its originator for their own gain. In my view this is purely an attempted marketing exercise by New Zealand. As I said, they should not be allowed to get away with it. I encourage them to work cooperatively with us.

_Senator Whish-Wilson interjecting—_

**Senator COLBECK:** Senator, I take your interjection. Shame on New Zealand for doing that. They should be working cooperatively with us, as our industry is prepared to do with them, so that we can both take advantage of the value of this industry in high-value global markets. Supply of this product in the market is quite obviously limited by the availability of the manuka trees—the leptospermum and the other varieties that work with that. I urge the UK not to fall for that, but to allow us to get on and work together.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order, Senator Colbeck. It being 2 pm, we will move to questions without notice.

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**Taxation**

**Senator WONG** (South Australia—Leader of the Opposition in the Senate) (14:00): My question is to the Minister for Finance, Senator Cormann. It has today been revealed that, in the Business Council of Australia's letter to senators, Australia's biggest businesses deleted a commitment to 'increase wages'. How can the minister