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Dear Secretariat,

Consultation on National Priorities and Industry Linkage Fund (NPILF)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the National Priorities and Industry Linkage Fund (NPILF) consultation paper.

The University of Newcastle supports the goal of the Fund to enhance industry and university engagement. We have a strong record of industry engagement across teaching, learning and research. We intend to build on this record, embedding industry engagement and work integrated learning into our five year strategic plan, *Looking Ahead 2020-25*. Central to this plan is the student experience, and educating 'life ready graduates' with skills for work, life and community. These goals align strongly with the underpinning policy goals of NPILF.

The University has contributed to the development of the policy and the consultation paper through our membership of the NPILF Working Group, and our views have been adequately represented through this process. We have also provided additional feedback as part of the ATN + 2 submission.

The University supports the principles of innovation, equity, flexibility, and simplicity of approach with regard to implementing the NPILF.

I hope the Fund will ultimately enable students from all backgrounds, studying a range of disciplines, to have valuable industry experiences that help prepare them for the challenges of the future.

I thank the Secretariat for the opportunity to provide additional feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Alex Zelinsky AO
Vice-Chancellor and President

