



24 June 2014

State Governments need to reprioritise their funding!

The TAFE Community Alliance today welcomed the release of the Australia Institute's 'Mining the Age of Entitlement', www.tai.org.au/content/mining-age-entitlement.

"State Governments have chosen to spend \$18 billion of taxpayers' money over the last six years on subsidies to the minerals and fossil fuel industries. This has been undertaken at the same time that funding has been removed from public facilities, including TAFE. The recent NSW budget cut another \$56 million from TAFE on top of previous cuts," said Linda Simon, a spokesperson for the Alliance.

"The cuts to TAFE mean less funds for skilling young people, and reskilling and upskilling the NSW workforce. TAFE fees will increase and students

are now expected to go into debt to pay for their qualifications. Less funds also mean less courses run and increased loss of teaching jobs."

"What this report highlights is the need for State Governments to reprioritise their funding and instead of propping up wealthy mining companies, to direct funding to TAFE, schools and other areas so much in need. This is what society expects of their governments and their taxpayer dollars."

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