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Media Release:
Space industry welcomes appointment of the Hon Melissa Price to lead Australia's Space Agency and space economy

The Space Industry Association of Australia (SIAA) welcomes the appointment of the Hon. Melissa Price MP as Minister for Science and Technology with responsibility for the Australian Space Agency.

"Australia's space industry is rapidly growing business and jobs for Australia and inspiring our smartest young Australians, we can't afford to lose momentum" says James Brown, CEO of SIAA, "ensuring Australia's civilian and defence space programs are complimentary will be critical to the success of our industry and made easier with the appointment of science and technology to the Minister's existing defence industry responsibilities". "This appointment will also position Australia to fully develop the space opportunities that are emerging from the AUKUS agreement, with India, Japan, and Korea, and in the pacific region".

The space industry has called for the Australian Space Agency to be established as a statutory agency and fully resourced to lead the growing development of Australia's space economy. The decision to confirm space as a sovereign industry capability priority for Australian defence points to the critical need for investment in Australia's national space mission and future space workforce.

"Minister Price already meets regularly with space industry companies working on defence programs. SIAA looks forward to introducing her to our members in the civilian space industry and space research organisations at the Southern Space Symposium to be held in Canberra next month".

SIAA's CEO, James Brown, is available for further comment.

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James Brown
Chief Executive Officer
Space Industry Association of Australia

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The Space Industry of Australia is the national peak body for the space industry in Australia. Formed in 1992, SIAA hosted the 2017 International Astronautical Congress in Adelaide which led to the establishment of the Australian Space Agency in 2018. SIAA and its member companies work closely with Australian governments, international partners, academia, and industry to advance Australia's space industry and economy.