



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Sugar manufacturers welcome the plan to secure our food and bioenergy future**

Today's announcement of the development of a national food security and bioenergy strategy '*Feeding Australia*' by the Federal Agriculture Minister, Julie Collins has been welcomed by the Australian Sugar Milling Council (ASMC).

ASMC CEO Ash Salardini says the Australian sugar industry can be central to Australia's role in a global food and bioenergy future, and this national strategy will ensure collaboration between the key bioenergy stakeholders.

'In a world that is being increasingly defined by geopolitical tensions, securing our food and energy future is not a 'nice to have', it is one of the defining challenges facing Australia', said Mr Salardini.

Sugar is central to domestic and global food systems and a fundamental feedstock for bioenergy, and as such, we are putting our hands up to be front and centre of this new strategy.

"Sugar is part of any robust food system, and we will be a primary feedstock for any biofuels and bioenergy domestic production capability. Outside traditional uses, sugar will be central to creating electricity, biomethane, sustainable aviation fuel, biodiesel, and in the creation of alternative proteins and nutraceuticals."

The ASMC has long been calling for a National Bioenergy Feedstock Strategy and looks forward to participating in the *Feeding Australia* project.

"This is exactly what the doctor ordered - a strategy that looks to optimise both food and fuel security in Australia."

Tuesday, 4 March 2025

**Media Contact - ASMC: Jim Crane 0400 991 931**

**About the Australian Sugar Milling Council:** *The Australian Sugar Milling Council is the peak industry body for the Australian sugar milling sector - contributing \$4.4 billion annually to the Australian economy and supporting more than 20,000 jobs. The ASMC works with its members, industry stakeholders, other industry representatives and government to develop and promote policies that enhance the sustainability, viability and economic contribution of the sugar industry in Australia.*