

# North West Minerals Province Taskforce

## Terms of Reference

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### Introduction

The North West Minerals Province Taskforce (the Taskforce) is a collaboration between industry and government to provide a set of recommendations to the Dr Anthony Lynham, Minister Natural Resources and Mines, for consideration by the government.

The Taskforce has been established in response to the current resources industry challenges, specifically in the North West Minerals Province (see the *Outlook* section below).

The taskforce includes representatives from industry peak bodies, regional development bodies, mining and exploration companies, local government, traditional owners and state government.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Taskforce is to present a set of recommendations to Dr Anthony Lynham, Minister Natural Resources and Mines (which will be used in a report for consideration by government) about how best to tackle the short-term challenges and address opportunities for the resources industry in the North West Minerals Province (the Province).

The recommendations will consider what is needed to maintain and sustain operations in the Province and what critical decisions by industry and government are needed in the short term to ensure the future remains bright for the communities in the Province.

The Taskforce will also be informed by the work currently being undertaken by two well respected industry representatives (engaged by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines), who will meet with organisations that are active or prospective in the region to further understand the nature of barriers to investment in the Province.

The Premier has requested that the Taskforce also consider the proposals relating to the resources industry, in the North West Queensland Strategic Development Study.

The Taskforce is an advisory body only and not a decision making body.

### Outlook

The North-West Minerals Province is one of the world's richest mineral producing regions - centred on Mount Isa and Cloncurry. The Province extends from the Northern Territory border up to the Gulf of Carpentaria. The region contains about 11 per cent of the world's known lead and zinc reserves, 5 per cent of the world's silver resources and 1.5 per cent of the world's copper reserves as well as major phosphate and uranium deposits.

The situation facing the North West is one of spiralling costs as a result of declining ore grade from mature operations. The cost pressures are compounded by volatile commodity prices and global over-capacity in refining and smelting, which is reducing the competitiveness of Queensland's existing and future operations.

The second important dynamic for the region is securing the critical mass necessary to make expensive infrastructure (rail, ports, water, and energy) economic for individual operations.

### Timetable

- First meeting in Mount Isa by the first week of March 2016
- Draft recommendations considered by the Taskforce by late April/early May 2016
- Final meeting late May/early June 2016
  - Taskforce endorsed recommendations provided to the Minister

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### Key themes

The recommendations provided to the Minister will address each key theme (as outlined below) and will be included as part of the overall strategy currently in development by the government to support the future of mining and promote economic activity in the North West Minerals Province.

The recommendations provided by the Taskforce will be valuable in forming the overall strategy due to their local knowledge, experience and insights.

Theme 1: *Characterising the Province today*

Theme 2: *Sustaining existing operations*

Theme 3: *Barriers to least cost production*

Theme 4: *Opportunities for new operations*

### Membership

It is proposed that the membership of the Taskforce comprise:

- Mr James Purtill, Director-General, Department of Natural Resources and Mines (Co-Chair)
- Mr Michael Roche Chief Executive, Queensland Resources Council (Co-Chair)
- Councillor Tony McGrady, Mayor, Mt Isa City Council
- Councillor Andrew Daniels, Mayor, Cloncurry Shire Council
- Councillor Fred Pascoe Mayor, Carpentaria Shire Council
- Mr Bernie Hogan, Regional Manager, Eastern States and NT, AMEC
- Mr Glen Graham, Chief Executive Officer, MITEZ
- Ms Patricia O'Callaghan, Chief Executive Officer, Townsville Enterprise
- Mr Graeme Neilson, Principal Corporate Affairs, South 32, Cannington Pty Ltd
- Mr Greg Ashe, Chief Operating Officer, Zinc Assets Australia (Glencore)
- Mr Mike Westerman, Chief Operating Officer, North Qld Copper Operations (Glencore)
- Mr Pierre Malan, General Manager, Dugald River Project Delivery, MMG Australia Ltd
- Mr Warren Waples, VP Australian Fertiliser Manufacturing, Incitec Pivot Ltd
- Dr Alistair Cowden, Managing Director, Altona Mining Limited
- Mr Colin Saltmere, Managing Director, The Myuma Group (*Traditional owner representative*)

Any change in membership composition requires the approval of the Taskforce's Co-Chairs in consultation with Taskforce members.

### Secretariat

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines will provide secretariat support to the Taskforce. The Secretariat will consult with key agencies as required.

The secretariat will:

- maintain records of the taskforce meetings
- coordinate and distribute the agenda for each meeting (endorsed by Co-Chairs) at least a week in advance, and
- ensure minutes of all meetings and decisions for each meeting are circulated within 48 hours

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### Meetings

The Taskforce will meet as required at a place and time determined by the Co-Chairs.

Any member of the taskforce may also request that a meeting be held.

Meetings will be conducted on a formal basis and be minuted.

A quorum consists of the Co-Chairs and at least eight of the standing members.

Proposals to use proxies to attend meetings on behalf of standing members need to be advised to the Co-Chairs two days prior to the meeting. The request must be notified through the secretariat.

### Observers

The Co-Chairs will decide if any persons may observe a meeting. The Co-chairs will decide if an observer may participate in discussion.

### Proxies

Taskforce members may appoint a proxy; however, to ensure continuity of the business of the Taskforce, the use of proxies for members is to be avoided where possible.

A proxy shall have the same rights and responsibilities as members at a meeting.

### Urgent Business

The Co-chairs may decide that members may be consulted in writing (email, fax or letter) outside formal meeting arrangements, when business arises external to a meeting.

### Disclosure of Interests

Taskforce members who have, or acquire, directly or indirectly, personal or pecuniary interest in a matter decided or under consideration by the Taskforce must disclose to the Taskforce the details of the interest. Matters relating to a members' general stakeholder interest, that would be expected to be well known to the Taskforce and project team, need not be disclosed.

Where disclosure reveals a conflict to such interests or involvements, the member will declare the interest or provide satisfactory reasons why their involvement is unable to be disclosed.

The Taskforce will determine whether the member may be present during any discussion, or may participate in any decision, with respect to the disclosed business.

### Media

It is preferable that prior to any matter relating to the work of the Taskforce being discussed with the media, the member seeks the written endorsement of the Co-Chairs of the Taskforce.

### Confidentiality

The Taskforce will recognise its exposure to confidential information. Improper use or disclosure of confidential information could jeopardise the Taskforce's ability to fulfil its role. All information provided to members in the course of performing their role on the Taskforce should be considered 'commercial-in-confidence' in the first instance and must not be divulged to any person without prior consent of the information provider and the Taskforce Co-Chairs.