

## SACOME Welcomes Energy and Mining Strategy

SACOME welcomes today's release of the South Australian Government's Energy and Mining Strategy as one of the nine sector plans underpinning the Marshall Government's Growth State agenda of achieving a sustained 3% annual economic growth rate for South Australia.

The Energy & Mining Strategy reflects consultation with industry by the Department for Energy & Mining, with many of the initiatives set out in the Strategy aligning with feedback provided by SACOME through the Growth State, 20 Year Infrastructure Plan and Regional Development Plan consultation processes.

SACOME is encouraged to see a clear focus on infrastructure investment, including an Infrastructure Corridors study; a commitment to sourcing water supplies to unlock mining opportunities in the Far North and Braemar regions; and the sealing of the Strzelecki track.

Infrastructure and water remain the key challenges to project development and SACOME is committed to working collaboratively with the South Australian Government in developing a solution that will catalyse investment and project development.

Reliable and affordable energy remains a core challenge with South Australia at the forefront of energy transition. With significant investment in interconnection, rooftop solar and battery storage technologies, SACOME emphasises the importance of ensuring reliable supply for the large commercial and industrial operators that are critical to our State's economy.

SACOME is also heartened to see an ambitious \$300 million exploration target being set by the Government. SACOME calls for the ongoing funding of the Accelerated Discovery Initiative (ADI) and its expansion to fund a targeted critical minerals component as imperative in achieving this outcome. Further, the establishment of a South Australian Gas Acceleration Program remains a key ask of SACOME to complement the ADI and to incentivise the responsible development of South Australian gas projects.

Rebecca Knol, CEO said "The Energy & Mining Strategy sets ambitious growth targets for the resources sector, recognising that it is one of the key industry sectors with the ability to grow the South Australian economy".

"The Strategy sets out the many actions being undertaken to drive resources sector activity. The challenge ahead will be to strategically focus these activities in a manner that generates economic growth outcomes for South Australia at the scale envisaged by the State Government."

"It is encouraging to see a strategic commitment by the State Government to resolving major impediments to project development in South Australia, recognising that government has a central role to play in creating the conditions to encourage investment."

"The South Australian resources sector is well poised to play an important role in the South Australia's post COVID-19 recovery and already employs 26,000 people directly and indirectly, delivers \$6.4 billion in production, \$5.3 billion in exports and \$299 million in royalties to South Australians."

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**About SACOME**

The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy is the peak industry association representing companies with interests and connections to the South Australian resources and energy sector.