

Reconstruction Generation dependent on Resources Sector

The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) congratulates the South Australian Labor Party and incoming Premier, Peter Malinauskas on forming majority government at the 2022 State election.

This is a significant electoral victory and SACOME looks forward to working with the Malinauskas Government in continuing to grow the South Australian resources sector and the State.

SACOME also acknowledges the outgoing Marshall Government's significant efforts to support the growth and continued operation of the South Australian resources sector, particularly through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Marshall Government leaves a legacy of strategic planning, infrastructure development and investment in regional South Australia. This investment will continue to reap benefits for the State well into the future and is to be commended.

Throughout the last electoral term, SACOME called for government to take an active role in driving industry and state economic development and this call was substantially answered.

SACOME urges the incoming Malinauskas Government to continue support for industry growth initiatives that are already well advanced.

Ahead of the election SACOME sought bipartisan support for [5 key priorities](#):

- [Northern Water Project](#)
- [Energy Transition Roadmap](#)
- [Future Workforce & Skills Framework](#)
- [Resource Sector infrastructure Corridors](#)
- [Land Access](#)

SACOME welcomed bipartisan support for \$10million of state funding to progress the Northern Water Project business case.

This major state economic development initiative aims to resolve a long-standing roadblock to the State's economic development through the construction of a new desalination plant and delivery of sustainable water to the Gawler Craton – a globally significant mineral province.

SACOME CEO Rebecca Knol said *"The Northern Water Project can provide water to the Upper Spencer Gulf for green steel and hydrogen production, reduce reliance on the Great Artesian Basin and Murray River, and can support defence and space sector activity at Woomera"*.

The sector also welcomed the bipartisan commitment for the development of multi-user infrastructure corridors to streamline project development and provide an investment attraction advantage for the State.

SACOME CEO Rebecca Knol said *“South Australia has an abundance of untapped mineral wealth that is far removed from the infrastructure that provides a path to market. Infrastructure corridors can provide a powerful incentive to invest in South Australia and give the State a competitive advantage in the contest for global capital”*

SACOME acknowledges the commitment made by the South Australian Labor Party to urgently establish an Energy Transition Roundtable composed of industry representatives and tasked with preparing an Energy Transition Roadmap that consolidates challenges and provides a proactive energy policy framework to better guide the State through the major transformation occurring across its energy networks.

The cost of the transition has been \$1 billion since 2018, and this must be addressed if the State’s key economic sectors are to be preserved.

SACOME CEO, Rebecca Knol said: *“We are in the midst of a historic energy transition. We need to re-engineer our electricity grid to accommodate renewables, and we also need to decarbonise our economy while preserving and growing the State’s industrial base.*

Policy makers need to expand their perception of energy transition from an engineering and systems management process to one that considers the costs across the whole economy.”

We encourage the Malinauskas Government to continue the work being undertaken by the Department for Innovation & Skills to develop a Five Year Skills Strategy that addresses workforce and labour supply demand challenges.

SACOME CEO, Rebecca Knol said: *“Longer-term strategic planning is essential if we are to build labour market resilience across the South Australian economy.”*

The sector seeks decisive leadership from the Malinauskas Government on the issue of land access, declaratively rejecting the implementation of a landowner Right to Veto.

We call for no further changes to the recently established regulatory frameworks nor adoption of the recommendations from the Parliamentary Select Committee on Land Access.

SACOME CEO, Rebecca Knol says: *“The resources sector is a cornerstone of the South Australian economy. Continued sectoral growth depends on stable regulatory environments, cohesive leadership, a continued focus on resolving structural impediments to economic growth and addressing acute workforce and skills shortages.”*



“SACOME and its members are committed to working constructively with the Malinauskas Government to progress major transformative initiatives, recognising that government, in partnership with industry, has a central role to play in driving economic development and sector growth.”

Further information on SACOMEs 2022 Pre-Election Priorities:

SACOME’s Resources Sector 2022 Pre-Election Priorities document is available [here](#).

SACOME’s 2022 Pre-Election Priorities Outcomes document is available [here](#).

View SACOME’s Resources Sector 2022 Election dedicated webpage [here](#).

Media contacts:

Rebecca Knol, CEO SACOME, 0409 012 007

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.

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