

## Parliamentary Select Committee into Land Access

SACOME views the establishment of a Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry into Land Access as unnecessary given recent amendment of the Mining Act and substantial changes to land access arrangements in South Australia at the end of 2020.

Establishment of the Inquiry disregards the significant regulatory reforms implemented through review of the Mining Act and has potential to jeopardise investment at a time when the State needs it most.

SACOME members have a demonstrated record of respectful engagement with landowners and communities for the broader benefit of the South Australian economy.

The South Australian resources sector is a key economic driver for the state and one of the few sectors that have remained profitable throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to contribute to the State's economic recovery efforts.

Rebecca Knol, CEO said "Industry engaged in good faith during the Mining Act review and continues to do so during the current Petroleum & Geothermal Energy Act review. Changes to land access arrangements have been given detailed consideration, resulting in increased reporting, compliance and engagement measures for operators."

"In addition, SACOME developed Land Access Guides for Mineral and Petroleum Exploration in 2020 with input from the agricultural sector. In doing so, SACOME's aim is to ensure that land access is undertaken in a best-practice manner by our member companies."

"SACOME supports a forward-looking approach to regulation, however, this Inquiry is narrowly focused and raises the very real threat of a Right to Veto or further moratoria in South Australia at the next election."

"SACOME and its member companies are committed to the economic development of the State, providing employment for South Australians, and making a direct economic contribution at a local, State and National level.

"This Inquiry puts jobs at risk and sends worrying signals to domestic and international investors about doing business in South Australia".

"SACOME and its member companies will participate in the Inquiry as required, recognising that the overwhelming majority of operators engage with landowners and communities in a respectful and constructive manner".

## **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.