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# Olympic Dam – Open Cut Mine Expansion

## The proposal

The Olympic Dam Expansion was declared as a Major development in November 2008. The development involves the expansion of the existing Olympic Dam open cut mine near Roxby Downs. The expansion will increase production by up to 1 million tonnes per annum of copper and associated products.

The expansion will also include a new borefield for water supply, upgraded electricity and transport infrastructure and an expansion of the Roxby Downs township. Significant waste rock storage areas, expanded evaporation basins and a new desalination plant at Port Bonython are also proposed.

[Download a summary of this development \(PDF, 247 KB\).](#)

## Assessment stages and documentation

Stage	Date	Documentation
Decision by Minister	The South Australian Minister for Mineral Resources Development, as the Minister responsible for the <i>Roxby Downs (Indenture Ratification) Act 1982</i> , approved the Olympic Dam Expansion Project, subject to 157 conditions, on 10 October 2011.	<a href="#">Government Gazette</a> dated 10 October 2011, page 4189
	A variation to this approval was granted by the above Minister on 24 October 2013, 13 December 2015 and 8 August 2017.	Variation – <a href="#">Government Gazette</a> dated 24 October 2013, page 4049
		Variation – <a href="#">Government Gazette</a> dated 8 August 2017, page 3083
Release of Assessment	The South Australian Minister for Mineral Resource Development, as the Minister responsible for the Roxby	<a href="#">Assessment</a>

Assessment <b>Stage</b> by Minister	responsible for the noxby <b>Date</b> s (Indenture Ratification) Act 1982, released the Assessment Report on 10 October 2011.	<a href="#">Report (PDF, Documentation 4762 KB)</a>
Release of Response document to public and agency comments on EIS	The Australian Government indicated to BHP Billiton on 21 April 2011 that, following an 'adequacy' review, its Supplementary EIS (SEIS) contained sufficient information for the Australian, South Australian and Northern Territory governments to formally assess the project, as required by the Commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.	<a href="#">Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement</a>
Release of EIS document for public comment	The public consultation period on BHP Billiton's draft environmental impact statement closed on Friday 7 August 2009.	<a href="#">Environmental Impact Statement</a>
Release of final Guidelines (EIS level of assessment determined to be required)	13 February 2006  1 December 2008	<a href="#">Guidelines for an EIS (PDF, 373 KB)</a>  <a href="#">Guidelines for an EIS Land outside indenture land (PDF, 667 KB)</a>  <a href="#">NT Government - Guidelines for NT transport options (PDF, 169 KB)</a>
Public comment on draft guidelines/issues paper	21 November 2005 to 19 December 2005	Submissions available for viewing on request to DIT
Release of draft guidelines / issues paper	21 November 2005	<a href="#">Draft guidelines issues paper (PDF, 1871 KB)</a>

Declaration as  
major  
development

15 September 2005

[Government  
Gazette](#) dated  
15 September  
2005, page  
3318

Variation –  
[Government  
Gazette](#) dated  
14 December  
2006, page  
4310

Variation  
– [Government  
Gazette](#) dated  
10 April 2008,  
page 1236

Variation –  
[Government  
Gazette](#) dated  
21 August  
2008, page  
3709

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