

# TERMS OF REFERENCE

## RESOURCES 2030 TASKFORCE

### 1. Overview

The Australian Government is committed to supporting a world class resources sector. To achieve this, the government seeks to create a policy framework that will increase the international competitiveness of the resources sector, improve the sustainability of resources activities and strengthen community support for the sector.

To inform its current and future activities, the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (the department) is establishing the Resources 2030 Taskforce (the taskforce). The taskforce is expected to identify and bring forward bold, attainable reforms to the Australian resources sector. Each reform will ensure the sector's competitiveness and sustainability to 2030 and beyond.

The taskforce will operate in 2018 and provide a report to the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia by August 2018. This report will outline the taskforce's recommendations to government and proposed reforms to the resources sector.

### 2. Membership

The taskforce will consist of at least eight members.

Each member will be appointed by the department. They will be a key stakeholder with knowledge of and broad experience across the resources sector.

Membership of the taskforce is restricted to the individual appointed by the department. Members cannot appoint delegates to attend the meeting on their behalf.

The department may appoint new members to the taskforce if required.

### 3. Responsibilities

The taskforce will identify bold, attainable reforms that will ensure the sector's competitiveness and sustainability to 2030 and beyond. To do this, the taskforce will consider the operation of the Australian resources sector, the nature of Australian Government policies and support, and ongoing risks and opportunities.

The taskforce will consider potential reforms in line with the following policy areas:

- **Investment:** business simplification and competitive investment settings
- **Communities:** regional development and bolstering community support
- **Exploration and business development:** new basins, markets, minerals and geological sciences
- **Innovation and technology:** improving productivity, developing METS and supply chains
- **Environment:** improving environmental performance.

The taskforce will meet four times between March and August 2018. Where necessary the taskforce may agree to meet at additional times.

The taskforce will report its findings to the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia. This report will be made by August 2018. The department will consider applicable actions recommended in the taskforce's report for inclusion in a Resources Statement.

#### 4. Consultation

The department will conduct stakeholder consultation on behalf of the taskforce. Where relevant, taskforce members will be invited to attend consultation meetings. Feedback and input received during this consultation will be made available to the taskforce. It is expected that this information will be considered for the taskforce's final report and associated recommendations.

#### 5. Duties of members

Members of the taskforce must comply with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and act in accordance with the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct.

Members are also expected to comply with all relevant legislation of the Commonwealth or of any state, territory or local authority. This includes the *Crimes Act 1914*, *Privacy Act 1988*, *Racial Discrimination Act 1975*, *Sex Discrimination Act 1984*, and *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

#### 6. Confidentiality

The taskforce's considerations and discussions will remain confidential until the release of the final report to the Minister. This will ensure that a robust, critical examination of the sector can occur.

Stakeholder consultation conducted by the taskforce will be public. Information obtained during this consultation will not be considered to be confidential and will be made available to participating stakeholders once the consultation process has concluded.

#### 7. Conduct of business

A quorum will be four members and shall include the chair.

Decisions, endorsements and requests for action will be determined by a consensus of those members participating in the meeting. If a consensus cannot be reached, majority vote will be used.

#### 8. Secretariat

The department will provide secretarial support to the taskforce. This support may include but is not limited to:

- arranging meetings and meeting agendas
- developing policy papers and research required by the taskforce

- preparing and circulating relevant papers to support the operation of the taskforce
- organising logistical arrangements.

#### 9. Sunset

The taskforce has been created to provide a report and recommendations to the Minister to advise on significant reforms for the Australian resources sector. Membership of the taskforce will remain in place until the provision of the relevant report to the Minister.