

MEDIA RELEASE

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Employers welcome Resources 2030 Taskforce report

Australian Resources and Energy Group AMMA says the Commonwealth Government's Resources 2030 Taskforce has <u>today</u> released the most comprehensive plan for supporting the future of Australia's resources and energy sector in almost 20 years.

"Not since the National Resources Statement of the late 1990s has the Australian Government released such a strong vision for the type of collaboration, regulatory reform and investment required to support the future prosperity of Australia's resources and energy industry," Tara Diamond, AMMA Director Industry Services, said.

"AMMA congratulates Minister for Resources Matthew Canavan and the Taskforce team for achieving their goal of building a long-term platform for the ongoing development of Australian resources that could, and should, attract bipartisan support in the Australian Parliament.

"This could only be achieved through extensive industry and community consultation in which AMMA and a diverse group of our member company senior executives were pleased to contribute.

"We welcome the broad considerations put forward across critical areas including community, innovation and technology, environmental management, exploration and infrastructure."

Some of the Taskforce's recommendations strongly endorsed by AMMA include:

- Formation of a Strategic Ministerial Advisory Group to drive reform and promote the longterm national interests of the resources sector.
- A strategic national reform agenda should be agreed and pursued by all resources ministers on the COAG Energy Council.
- Development of a Resources Data Strategy to advance data collection and analysis.
- Governments, industry and local communities should work together to identify and promote priority new basins and provinces for greenfield development.
- National expansion of the Commonwealth's *Exploring for the Future* program, both onshore and offshore.
- Creation of bilateral agreements and more "one-stop-shops" to streamline environmental approvals and regulatory processes.
- Government/industry collaboration to map the industry's skills needs for 2030 and beyond.
- Better coordination of resources-focused curricula at university and VET levels that target the longer term needs of the sector.

"AMMA further welcomes a number of recommendations aimed at fostering more positive community sentiment towards the industry, building the future pipeline of skills and talent, and better promoting the industry to the international investment community," Ms Diamond said.

"While comprehensive, the Taskforce Report is however not a complete picture. AMMA will continue to urge the government that other policy measures, including meaningful workplace relations reform, remains critical to unlocking the industry's productivity and global competitiveness."

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