



# QUEENSLAND **resources industry** development plan

Draft for consultation  
Summary document

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**Queensland**  
Government



Right now, the greatest contribution Queensland can make to the world's efforts to meet emissions targets is to find, mine, process and manufacture the metals, minerals and equipment needed to decarbonise the global economy.

**The resources industry has underpinned Queensland's economic development and prosperity for over a century.**

**It has helped define Queensland and is part of our identity, both at home and abroad.**

**But the world is changing.**

The draft Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan identifies the biggest global trends affecting the industry now and over the next three decades. It presents actions that will enable industry and government to respond to these trends. The plan will shape a future where, by 2050, the industry will transform in line with the global economy. It will grow and diversify to increase contribution to economic growth and provide more high-quality jobs for Queenslanders.

VISION—  
**A resilient, responsible  
and sustainable Queensland  
resources industry that  
grows as it transforms**

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## **Our resources industry**

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Every Queenslander benefits from our resources industry.

It directly supports around 80,000 jobs and thousands of regional businesses. Mining royalties help pay for government funded services including schools, hospitals, roads, teachers, doctors and nurses.

Global trends, including commitments set across the globe and domestically to address and limit the impacts of climate change, will transform the resources industry as we know it. These trends present challenges, but also significant opportunities. As the world looks towards low emissions energy sources, we will seek to maintain the competitiveness of our coal and gas sectors – our traditional strengths – including through measures to lower their emissions intensity. We will also embrace unprecedented opportunities presented by the ever-increasing demand for new economy minerals and further diversify Queensland's resources industry.

We can be confident that Queensland's resources industry can achieve this transformation because it has done so before. It has changed for the better many times over the decades, pivoting to adapt to new discoveries, new technologies and new global demand.

# Trends changing the resources industry

Six major economic and social trends are emerging that will create both challenges and opportunities for the resources industry in coming years.

The resources industry faces several trends that will reshape Queensland and the global economy over the coming decades:



1. **decarbonisation** will reshape commodity demand as the world seeks to address and limit the impacts of climate change



2. **corporate social responsibility** will influence investor and customer decisions as they seek ethical investments and products



3. **scarcity and complexity of access to quality resources** will drive companies to shift their business models from mineral extraction to material handling in a circular economy



4. **an increasing consumer base in the Indo-Pacific** will increase demand for Queensland's resources



5. **geopolitics** will favour our reputation for supply reliability and drive onshoring of supply chains



6. **emerging innovations** will make mining safer, more productive and digitally focused; create opportunities in mining equipment, technology and services (METS); and impact employment patterns.

# Our key focus areas

The draft Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan outlines six key focus areas where government and industry need to take action in the short and medium term to realise outcomes by 2050.



## Grow and diversify the industry

Take advantage of the world's growing demand for new economy minerals to decarbonise the economy by focusing on exploration and creating local mineral and metals supply chains, adding value at each step from mine to manufacture.



## Strengthen our ESG credentials and protect the environment

Sustain the state's traditional commodity strengths in an environmentally responsible way and ensure our regulatory regime sustains the increasing focus of global investors and customers on environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors.



## Foster coexistence and sustainable communities

Provide a framework that ensures mutual benefits for communities and the sector, including a positive ecological, social and economic benefit beyond the life of individual mines.



## Ensure strong and genuine First Nations partnerships

Respect First Nations peoples' aspirations to achieve higher levels of equity ownership in the industry and embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge at every stage in resource projects.



## Build a safe and resilient future workforce

Ensure worker safety is not subject to profit and productivity considerations, and provide opportunities to train and reskill the workforce to support ongoing regional employment opportunities.



## Improve regulatory efficiency

Attract investment by ensuring the regulatory regime is risk-based, efficient and transparent, and also protects the public interest effectively.

# Actions to achieve our vision

To achieve our vision for the resources industry, government and industry must commit to joint action.

Our vision is a resilient, responsible and sustainable Queensland resources industry that grows as it transforms.

By working cooperatively, the government and the resources industry will deliver the actions in the plan.

By 2050, Queensland's resources industry will be:

- » A diversified, global supplier of new economy minerals
- » Recognised globally as a leading ESG jurisdiction
- » Making a greater contribution to Queensland's economy
- » Providing more high-quality, high-wage jobs and careers.



Key focus area 1:

## Grow and diversify the industry

1. Deliver Queensland's Collaborative Exploration Initiative
2. Pilot the re-commercialisation of an abandoned mine
3. Investigate promotion strategies for Queensland's new economy minerals
4. Develop a Queensland Battery Industry Strategy
5. Continue to implement the Queensland Government's Advanced Manufacturing 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan
6. Continue to support regional manufacturing hubs
7. Review of rent for new economy minerals projects
8. Facilitate and investigate common user infrastructure
9. Complete the Bowen Basin pipeline concept study
10. Review the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* to enable hydrogen and other clean energy resources
11. Investigate carbon capture, use and storage
12. Continue to implement the Queensland METS 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan
13. Refresh Queensland's approach to innovation





#### Key focus area 2:

### **Strengthen our ESG credentials and protect the environment**

14. Establish a government–industry working group to determine appropriate government action
15. Investigate support required for industry to build ESG capability
16. Investigate research and development support options, particularly for mineral traceability technology
17. Continue to implement financial assurance and mine rehabilitation reforms
18. Require industry to develop plans to decarbonise operations
19. Investigate innovative options to support junior and mid-level companies to decarbonise operations
20. Investigate establishment of an independent Environmental Protection Agency
21. Continue Kati Thanda–Lake Eyre Basin consultation



#### Key focus area 3:

### **Foster coexistence and sustainable communities**

22. Develop principles for strong landholder relationships
23. Review land access and coexistence institutions
24. Capture emerging coexistence issues in updated regional plans
25. Implement findings of Strong and Sustainable Communities Act review
26. Deliver the Resources Community Infrastructure Fund



#### Key focus area 4:

### **Ensure strong and genuine First Nations partnerships**

27. Continue the Local Thriving Communities reform
28. Review, strengthen and improve Cultural Heritage Acts
29. Develop reconciliation action plans
30. Assist in Closing the Gap through economic development opportunities



#### Key focus area 5:

### **Build a safe and resilient future workforce**

31. Establish a working group to develop a Queensland resources industry workforce plan
32. Support industry to attract a skilled workforce
33. Develop a diverse and inclusive workforce
34. Support the training needs of existing and future workers
35. Continue to implement the Digital Professional Workforce Action Plan 2020-2024



#### Focus area 6:

### **Improve regulatory efficiency**

36. Improve resource project assessment processes
37. Develop a data resources development plan
38. Improve land release process
39. Implement reforms for objections, review and notification processes for project approvals
40. Implement reforms for small-scale mining
41. Implement reforms for use of steel casing
42. Develop a fit-for-purpose framework for extractive industry assessment
43. Improve cost recovery for government services provided to industry

# Our resources, **your** say

## Have your say on the draft plan



Visit [www.resources.qld.gov.au/GRIDP](http://www.resources.qld.gov.au/GRIDP) or scan the **QR code**.

Some questions to consider as you review the document:

- » Will the draft plan's six key focus areas support delivery of the 30-year vision?
- » Does the draft plan address the future challenges and opportunities facing the resources industry and ensure that regional communities continue to benefit from the industry?
- » Is there adequate support to help the resources industry leverage future opportunities?
- » How will industry demonstrate its commitment to the expectations of industry? Will these expectations ensure that the shared vision for the industry is realised?
- » Overall, will the proposed actions help deliver the vision of a resilient, responsible and sustainable Queensland resources industry that grows as it transforms?

Your feedback, as well as other engagement results, research and analysis, will be used to create the final Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan, due to be released in mid-2022.



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