

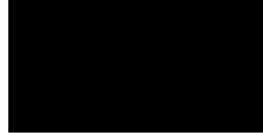


Government
of South Australia

RESOURCES INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MER F2014/000270
Objective ID: A2093620

Chair: Mr Keith Yates



11 August 2014

Secretariat: Mr Martin Reid
RIDB Secretariat
Mining Projects Branch
Mineral Resources Division
Dept. of State Development
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Minister Tom Koutsantonis MP
Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy
Level 8, State Administration Centre
200 Victoria Square
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

Reform of South Australian Government Boards and Committees

I write to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Resources Industry Development Board (RIDB) in response to the Premier's letter to me of 8TH July 2014 advising of his recent decision to reform South Australian Government Boards and Committees. In this letter, he offered us the opportunity to make a case as to why the Board should be exempt from being abolished.

It appears from the Premier's letter that his decision is directed to Boards and Committees that serve a purpose of enabling Government to engage with the community, business and citizens in making public policy.

This Board was initiated in May 2000 as a result of a recommendation in the December 1999 Resources Task Force Report. Its role is to provide advice to the relevant Minister both directly and through senior departmental officers. This is reflected in its Function Statement which states:

The Board's seminal purpose is to provide advice to the Government through the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy that enhances the sustainable growth of the minerals and energy sectors in South Australia and its contribution to the State's economic and social development

So long as you and senior representatives of the Department of State Development (through whom much of the Board's advice is provided to you) remain satisfied that the Board plays a valuable role in fulfilling its functions, there is a good case for the Board's continued existence.



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In addition, the Board has noted the Premier's statements that the proposed reform will save at least \$1 million per year in board fees and administration. The Board notes that the fees payable to its members are nominal as are the costs of administration. A number of these members have in excess of 40 years' resources industry experience which is harnessed in addressing key strategic issues in four meetings a year.

Having put forward the above reasons why the Board should be exempt from the Premier's decision; that decision may well be able to be implemented within resources and energy sector Government boards, committees and councils by considering whether there would be benefits in consolidating them.

With your support, the Board (or a sub-committee of it including senior representatives of the Department of State Development) would be willing to consider this question more fully and to advise you in that regard.

I look forward to your response to this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Keith Yates'.

Keith Yates
Chair
Resources Industry Development Board