

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY
 SCIENCE AND RESOURCES
 08 AUG 2002
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Representatives Standing Committee
 on Industry and Resources
 Submission No: 68
 Date Received: 8 AUGUST 2002
 Secretary: S. Forbes



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7 August 2002

The Secretary
 House of Representatives
 Standing Committee on Industry and Resources
 Parliament House
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Madam Secretary,

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INQUIRY
 INTO RESOURCES EXPLORATION IMPEDIMENTS**

BHP Billiton Minerals Pty Ltd (BHPB) request that the Standing Committee accept this letter as our submission to the above captioned Inquiry. A number of our staff has assisted with the preparation of submissions that have, or are about to be lodged with you by various state and national mining industry representative bodies. I especially draw your attention to the Queensland Mining Council (QMC) submission. As a Company undertaking mineral exploration in Australia, we support that submission.

The QMC submission addresses all the national issues facing the exploration industry, as well as providing greater detail about Queensland matters. These Queensland issues are also applicable to varying degrees to all other Australian States and Territories.

BHPB has historically undertaken mineral exploration in all States and the Northern Territory of Australia. Currently, BHPB has exploration interests in four States and the Northern Territory.

In recent years, BHPB has increased its alliance and joint venture partner activity with small, medium and large exploration companies across Australia, therefore the health of all participants in the industry and the environment in which they operate is important to BHPB. Accordingly, I urge you to consider carefully the submissions lodged by industry representative bodies, especially the Queensland Mining Council submission.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Whiting
 Vice President
 Minerals Exploration

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 which is headquartered in Australia
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