



**PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
AND RESOURCES SA**

House of Representatives Standing Committee  
on Industry and Resources

Submission No: 119

Date Received: 23 June 03

Secretary: J. Cook

- AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES
- AQUACULTURE
- FISHERIES
- MINERAL RESOURCES
- PETROLEUM
- SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES
- OFFICE OF ENERGY POLICY
- SA RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Date: 17/6/03

Mr Geoff Prosser  
Chairman  
House of Representatives  
Standing Committee on Industry and Resources  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir

On 23 May I gave evidence in Canberra before your Parliamentary Committee inquiring into Impediments to Resource Exploration.

I seek to add further information to a question asked of me by Dr Washer regarding my opinion of appropriate types of surveys that may be useful in promoting exploration and reducing the investment risk to explorers. My answer was that the type of geological terrain and the nature of previous surveys would be a determining factor in the selection. Upon reflection I wish to add that additional to this comment is the notion that there are 3 significant Australia wide data sets essential for understanding the geological framework of the continent and which are implicit in promoting exploration investment and reducing risk. These are:

1. Outcrop geology
2. Total magnetic intensity and
3. Gravity

Australia is fortunate in that it now has geology available at 1:250,000 scale covering the continent. The continent is also covered by regional air-magnetics and gravity and although much of the magnetic coverage is based on flight lines of 400 metres or closer the national gravity dataset is based on a fairly coarse 11km grid.

A program, preferably managed and coordinated by the Commonwealth Government, that resulted in the tightening of the National Gravity Grid to the order of 2km or better would provide a quantum step change to the understanding of the geological framework of the continent. Such a program is worthy of support by your Committee.

Yours sincerely

**DAVID BLIGHT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

cc Fred Cook Inquiry Secretary