

3RD RESOURCES MINISTERS ROUNDTABLE
MEETING COMMUNIQUE
MONDAY 27 JULY 2020

FEDERAL, STATE AND TERRITORY RESOURCES MINISTERS MET TODAY BY TELEPRESENCE FOR THE THIRD RESOURCES MINISTERS ROUNDTABLE.

Today, Ministers began by reaffirming the need to maintain a coordinated, national approach to manage the impacts of COVID-19 and pursue economic growth and job creation. Ministers also commended industry and resources workers for continuing to take a proactive and flexible approach to maintaining operations that underpin so many Australian jobs, and so much of our global trade.

Ministers once again noted the particular impacts that the global pandemic has had on the exploration sector—and the long-term disruption that may cause to future investments and project development. Ministers welcomed the Commonwealth’s commitment of an additional \$125 million funding for the *Exploring for the Future* program to map minerals, energy and groundwater in support of further exploration and investment.

Noting the National Cabinet’s decision to establish the National Federation Reform Council to replace COAG, Ministers discussed the role of resources development in driving job creation.

To support ongoing growth and investment in new and existing projects, Ministers discussed:

- The EPBC review, and the Productivity Commission on its study of best-practice resources regulation.
- Achievements made towards the COAG Energy Council’s *Critical Minerals Roadmap*, including towards establishing an ethical supply certification scheme, and identifying prospective critical minerals hubs and precincts.

Ministers also recognised the critical importance of skills, education and training in ensuring that *Australian’s are equipped to take up new jobs* in the resources sector. Ministers committed to develop a National Resources Workforce Strategy to increase workforce capability, improve education and training systems, and strengthen career pathways.

Ministers committed to reviewing relevant regulatory processes, promoting stronger relationships between government, industry, workers, communities and Indigenous Australians.

The telepresence roundtable was attended by:

The Hon. Keith Pitt MP, Commonwealth Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia

The Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham, Queensland Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

The Hon. Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP, South Australian Minister for Energy and Mining

The Hon. Guy Barnett MP, Tasmanian Minister for Primary Industry and Resources

The Hon. Bill Johnston MLA, Western Australian Minister for Mines and Petroleum, Energy and Industrial Relations

Apologies

The Hon. John Barilaro MP, New South Wales Deputy Premier, and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

The Hon. Paul Kirby MLA, Northern Territory Minister for Primary Industry and Resources

The Hon. Jaclyn Symes MP, Victorian Minister for Resources

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