

## One of the most mineralised places on the planet

Tasmania has a long history of prosperous mining industries that have yielded rich mineral wealth. Currently the combined mining and mineral-processing sectors represent more than 50 per cent of the state's merchantile export earnings.

As one of the most mineralised places on the planet, Tasmania has remarkable geological diversity and an abundance of rich and high-grade mineral deposits that are easily accessible and close to transport and infrastructure. Major commodities extracted in Tasmania include copper, gold, lead, iron, silver, tin, zinc, coal, and ultra-high purity silica flour.

Many untapped opportunities remain for exploration, extraction and downstream processing of Tasmania's mineral resources, and supportive legislation is in place for both exploration and development.

The Tasmanian Government recognises the need to grow Tasmania's core industries and leverage off the state's competitive strengths.

The government is interested in securing value-adding investment for our mining industry. Through Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT), the government provides current geo-scientific data in state-of-the-art digital formats to assist explorers in identifying potential mineral targets.



Currently there are around 540 mining leases held in Tasmania. The majority of these are for construction materials (road base and surfacing materials, gravel, sand and clay). There are a number of firms that conduct major mining operations in Tasmania. These include Grange Resources, Minerals and Metals Group, Diversified Minerals, Copper Mines of Tasmania, Bluestone Mines, Tasmania Mines, Shree Minerals, Cornwall Coal, Sibelco Lime, Cement Australia, and Circular Head Dolomite.

Current Tasmanian Government priorities for this sector include:

- » attracting and facilitating new investment in both mining and mineral processing
- » providing adequate infrastructure for mining operations
- » maintaining a world-class regulatory system for exploration and mining
- » assisting industry in the acquisition of data and critical skills.

Through the Office of the Coordinator-General and MRT, the government is proactively seeking investment from companies who recognise the importance of sustainable, wealth-generating opportunities in exploration, mining, and mineral processing. The government will tailor assistance to suit the specific requirements of potential investors.



## Tasmanian mining industry today

### ■ Mining operations

1. **Copper Mines of Tasmania\***  
Copper, gold, silver
2. **Diversified Minerals**  
Gold
3. **Minerals and Metals Group**  
Zinc, lead, gold, silver, copper
4. **Bluestone Mines**  
Tin, copper
7. **Tasmanian Advanced Minerals**  
Silica flour
8. **Grange Resources**  
Iron ore
9. **Shree Minerals\***  
Iron ore
10. **Circular Head Dolomite**  
Dolomite
12. **Naracoopa Mineral Sands**  
Heavy mineral sands
15. **Tasmania Mines**  
Magnetite, tungsten
16. **Sibelco Lime Tasmania**  
Limestone
20. **Cornwall Coal**  
Coal
21. **Australian bauxite**  
Aluminium

### ● Mineral processing

13. **Grange Resources**  
Iron ore pellets
14. **Tasmanian Advanced Minerals**  
Silica flour
17. **Cement Australia**  
Cement
18. **BCD Resources**  
Gold
19. **Pacific Aluminium**  
Primary aluminium alloys, paste, powder
19. **TEMCO**  
Ferromanganese  
Silicomanganese, sinter
23. **Nyrstar Smelter**  
Zinc metals, alloys, cadmium, sulphuric acid

### ▲ Mines under development

5. **Avebury Nickel Mine**  
Nickel
6. **Venture Minerals**  
Tin, tungsten, iron ore
11. **King Island Scheelite**  
Tungsten
22. **HardRock Coal Mining**  
Coal



\* Currently on care and maintenance

## Key reasons for investing in the Tasmanian mining and mineral-processing industry

- » For its size, Tasmania is one of the most highly and diversely mineralised areas in the world.
- » Currently there are strong prices for metals with which Tasmania is well endowed and for which there is tightening supply, notably tin and zinc.
- » MRT has a comprehensive geoscientific program, providing exploration companies with the information needed to let investors assess the mineral potential of the state.
- » New projects are regularly being developed, with total mine production in Tasmania expected to increase during 2016-20 as a series of nickel, silica, tin, tungsten, iron ore and coal operations are brought online.
- » Tasmania offers investors coordination between the government, MRT, Environment Protection Authority, local government and the Australian Government.
- » There is a supportive, regularly updated, and world-class regulatory regime in Tasmania, through the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995*.

## Opportunities for exploration

Rocks from every period of the Earth's history since the Middle Proterozoic are present in Tasmania and there have been at least four major episodes of economic mineralisation.

Significant mineral deposits include:

- » Proterozoic iron ore, silica, dolomite and magnesite
- » Cambrian VHMS base metal-gold and ultramafic-related platinum group minerals (PGM) and chromite
- » Devonian granite-related tin, tungsten, fluorite, magnetite and silver-lead-zinc deposits
- » Devonian slate-belt gold deposits
- » Cainozoic alluvial gold, tin and PGMs, and residual nickel, iron oxide, bauxite, silica and clay.

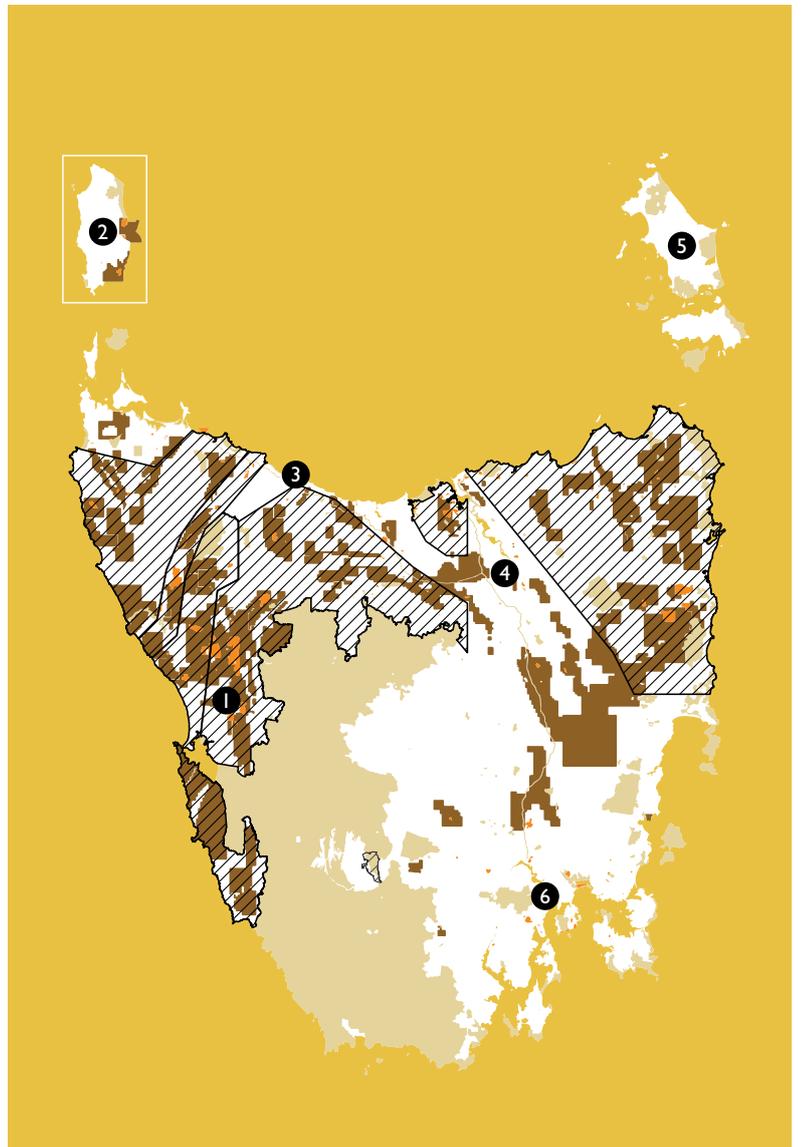
## Stable, flexible and innovative workforce

Tasmania offers a workforce that is stable, with an excellent industrial relations record and a culture of flexibility and innovation. The total cost of employing workers in Tasmania is less than in any other Australian state or territory.

Tasmanian training providers work with local industry to ensure their training needs are met. These providers actively design national and international training programs for accreditation, to ensure transferable and essential skills are created within the state.

## Tasmanian mining – access potential

- |                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 1. Queenstown      |  | Available for mineral exploration or mining            |
| 2. King Island     |  | Strategic prospectivity zones                          |
| 3. Burnie          |  | Current mining leases                                  |
| 4. Launceston      |  | Current metallic and non-metallic exploration licences |
| 5. Flinders Island |   |  |
| 6. Hobart          |   |  |



### Accessibility

As an island with an area of 68 330 square kilometres, in most instances mining and mineral-processing operations will be located less than 100 kilometres from plant to port, providing fast access to distribution channels. There are frequent freight-shipping services from Tasmania's major ports and efficient services for bulk cargo and seasonal commodities. The Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme provides financial assistance to shippers of eligible freight destined for Australian markets.

Airports in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie provide quick and easy access to mainland Australia.

### Energy options

Industry in Tasmania benefits from a safe, reliable energy supply. The majority of Tasmania's energy is supplied by renewable hydro-electricity. An undersea power cable linking Tasmania with mainland Australia has provided further security and competition in the Tasmanian energy market.

The connection of a natural gas pipeline from mainland Australia has introduced natural gas-generated electricity to Tasmania and reticulated natural gas for industrial and domestic use.

### Industry support

The Tasmanian Government's mineral resources division, MRT provides a single point of contact for approvals or exploration activities in Tasmania.

MRT can also assist exploration companies with geoscientific information on Tasmania including access to over 700 kilometres of archived drill core.

### Research and development

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Ore Deposits (CODES) is based at the University of Tasmania and is widely regarded as a global leader in ore deposit research and teaching.

The CODES research team is highly valued for its wealth of knowledge and experience. Many businesses in the industry have gained great benefit from tapping into its resources and see significant value in CODES' ability to tailor research projects to meet individual requirements.

### Telecommunications

Tasmania has a comprehensive telecommunications network with advanced infrastructure, and digital capability at every network site.



## Quick facts

- » At present there are 14 mining operations in Tasmania, two of which are currently on care and maintenance. In addition the state is home to three major mineral-processing facilities and many smaller operations, including projects aimed at producing sheelite and tin.
- » As at 24 October 2016, there were 541 mining leases, 132 exploration licences, and 25 retention licences active in Tasmania.
- » Metallic minerals mined in Tasmania include copper, gold, silver, iron, tungsten, tin, aluminium, lead and zinc with future opportunities in nickel.
- » Non-metallic industrial minerals mined in Tasmania include ultra-high purity silica flour, limestone, dolomite and coal.
- » Non-metallic construction materials mined in Tasmania include building stone, aggregate, gravel and sand.
- » More than 80 per cent of Australia's economic demonstrated resources of tin are in Tasmania.
- » The mining and mineral-processing sectors combined represent more than 50 per cent of Tasmania's mercantile export earnings.
- » Current mining and exploration operations on Tasmania's west coast have identified in-ground resources worth more than AU\$11 billion at current prices.

## Explore the opportunities and your future potential in Tasmania

The Office of the Coordinator-General is the Tasmanian Government's investment promotion and facilitation arm, which provides free confidential services and professional advice to investors, including:

- » dedicated project teams and case management
- » a focus on lead projects that have the potential to transform a supply chain and that leverage Tasmania's advantages and resource endowment
- » planning pre-audits to support approval processes
- » connections with local industry and government departments
- » information on business opportunities, investment regulations and government assistance
- » insights on business costs, skills availability, taxation and research opportunities
- » expert advice in Tasmania's industry capabilities and strengths
- » site visits to identify suitable locations for your business
- » links with potential partners
- » connections with infrastructure and service providers
- » information on industry strategies.

## Contacts

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