

18 October

## Wake-Up Call for Queensland

The announcement today that Glencore is commencing closure of their Mount Isa Mines underground copper operations and the copper concentrator in 2025, should serve as a wake-up call for Queensland.

As the peak mining association representing explorers and junior miners in the country, AMEC Chief Executive Officer Warren Pearce calls on the State Government to do “Everything in its power to support current projects, help with expansion opportunities and develop new projects. Government must turn the talk about being a smarter and faster place to do business, into reality.”

“Developing the North West is a key priority for the Queensland Government and is supported by their significant policy and funding commitments in this space, to develop minerals vital for our energy transition.”

Noting that a \$50 million support package is being provided by the government, AMEC would like to see these funds directed to promising junior developers, to reduce the regular delays experienced while trying to move forward. The funds should also be used to help transition the 1000 plus Glencore workers to find alternative employment in the mining industry.

“The decision by Glencore to withdraw from Mount Isa after 60 years is a shock. However, the reality is that all resource projects are finite, and when they close, the employment, wealth and community benefits they generate are hard to replace. This is exactly why we need to keep investing in our resources sector, and why we need to find and develop new mines, to replace those that come to a natural end. To do so, we need strong leadership and support from governments” said Mr Pearce.

“There are a wide range of explorers, project developers and producers in the region. With the right support, these companies can help fill the mineral and employment gaps left by today’s announcement.”

“Our Association recognises the significant contribution of all Mount Isa Mines workers, their families and the broader Mount Isa Community. They deserve to be supported, as they digest the news and plan the next chapter of their lives.”

“If government and industry work together to accelerate the exploration and development of new projects in the North West Mineral Province, then there is no reason the future of Mount Isa and surrounding communities can’t be every bit as bright as its past.”

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**For further comment or to organise an interview with CEO Warren Pearce, please contact  
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