



# THE MINER'S RIGHT

The North Queensland Miner's Association Incorporated  
Representing Miners, Prospectors and Associated Industries

November 2021

**NQMA General Meeting 1PM, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at Mareeba Leagues Club**

## Presidents Report

The Annual General Meeting was held in September with a new committee voted in:

President: Fiona Thomas (nee Abbey)

Vice-President: James Said

Secretary: Amanda Blazely

Treasurer: Terry Edwards

Other executive committee representatives include Paul Crossland, Graham Byrnes, Mike Scott, Greg Guernier, Buddy Kelly and Vicky Lake. We have a number of representative positions that include, Native Title Officer, Environmental Matters, AMEC Representative, Mining Heritage Issues, Publicity Officer, Miners Right Editor, Web Site and social media, Gulf Savannah NRM, Hard Rock. All these positions are covered by the Committee!

I would like to thank the outgoing committee and welcome the new. As we all know volunteer positions take a back seat to work and other commitments, so we are very thankful for each and every one of our committee members. I would like to personally thank the NQMA members for welcoming me back into the fold after a three year break away. I have some catching up to do but I hope to get my head around it all soon.

For this newsletter, you may notice, has a bit of a green tinge to it. Climate change is constantly in the media and green clean energy is the buzz. The goals that Government make to reach a % green clean energy CANNOT be made without Mining. So, I have included a few articles that look at the minerals needed to make this energy. Also, an insight on the huge project happening in a North Queensland old mining pit!

The November meeting has snuck up quickly! For this meeting we will focus on our plan for 2022 and what topics are needing to be addressed in the coming future. If you have any topic that you believe needs attention, please email it through on [info@nqma.com.au](mailto:info@nqma.com.au)

2022 Calendars are ordered and on the way to print. For members - look out for these in your snail mail boxes early December. If you need to change your mailing address, please email through. If its not too early to say..... have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**PRESIDENT:** Fiona Thomas  
**VICE-PRESIDENT:** James Said  
**SECRETARY:** Amanda Blazely  
**TREASURER:** Terry Edwards  
**NATIVE TITLE OFFICER:** Paul Crossland  
**EDITOR:** Fiona Thomas  
**EMAIL:** [info@nqma.com.au](mailto:info@nqma.com.au)  
**WEBSITE:**  
[www.nqma.com.au](http://www.nqma.com.au)

NQMA has a social media profile!! You can become our FRIEND by liking our page on Facebook. You will find mining news, info and re-posts from other relevant mining pages. Search North Queensland Miners Association and 'like' away 😊

We have also updated our website. We hope to have regular blog updates every month or so. The current membership form is also available from this site. So... head on over to have a look every now and then.

[www.nqma.com.au](http://www.nqma.com.au)

We are yet to join the world of LinkedIn but watch this space.



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## **Safety and Health in Mining**

The spotlight was very much on Safety and Health in September with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mount Mulligan disaster, whereby 75 miners lost their lives. Families and communities were changed forever. Watching the ceremony via online streaming had all the emotions and enforced the sobering reality of the risks that are taken to produce resources for the world to use.

Although it might seem at times that the standards that Miners have to comply with are very high, it is because of this disaster and lives lost since, that high compliance is a necessity. Everyone deserves to go home to their family after work! In 2020 the Qld Government established Resources Safety and Health Queensland, which is now separate to the Department of Resources. More information regarding Safety and Health can be found at [www.rshq.qld.gov.au](http://www.rshq.qld.gov.au) The 2020-2021 Annual Report has recently been released and available from the website.

## **Department of Resources**

The Collaborative Exploration Initiative program is now open for submissions from 1 November until 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The Department is *“looking for proposals that will test innovative exploration concepts, which will in turn provide a new understanding of the geology and new economy mineral prospectivity in Queensland”*. For more information, please visit [www.resources.qld.gov.au](http://www.resources.qld.gov.au). The 2020-2021 Annual Report is also available for your reading pleasure.

### *What are new economy minerals?*

With the world leaders talking, debating and making commitments to reduce Climate Change, more and more attention is on green/clean/renewable energy resources. These resources, such as, solar power, battery storage, electric cars and even medical products require a large amount of New Economy Minerals.

These minerals are concentrated in certain parts of Queensland such as the Northwest and Northeast Mineral Province. There are many projects being undertaken by the Geological Survey of Queensland (GSQ) to identify the location and range of deposits. These projects include magnetic surveys, gradiometry surveys, re-imaging Qld's phosphate deposits and reexamining existing mines and reusing old mines. With the worldwide demand of these minerals, mining might be evolving but it is certainly not going away any time soon!

The Departments of Resources website: [www.resources.qld.gov.au/mining-exploration/initatives/new-economy-minerals/uses-of-new-economy-minerals](http://www.resources.qld.gov.au/mining-exploration/initatives/new-economy-minerals/uses-of-new-economy-minerals) gives the following snap shot of ways the minerals are used for renewable technologies.

<b>Commodity</b>	<b>Uses</b>
Aluminium (Bauxite)	Solar and wind technology. Food packaging. Aircraft. Electric vehicles and battery storage
Cadmium	Solar cells. Rechargeable batteries. Pigments
Cobalt	Key component of lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles and battery storage Wind technology. Ceramics
Copper	Solar and wind technology. EVs and battery storage. Electricity grids. Music instruments
Graphite	Key component of lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles and battery storage. Pencils
Indium	Electric technology. Touch screens/flat screen TVs. Solar panels. Windshields - aircraft and cars
Manganese	Bridges. Railway tracks. Electric cars. Wind technology
Molybdenum	Armour. Buildings. Petrol refining
Niobium	Battery storage. Jet engines. Superconducting magnets
Nickel	Steel. Food processing. Electronics. Electric vehicles and battery storage. Solar technology
<b>Rare earth elements</b> – (these are a distinct group on the periodic table that include Cerium, Dysprosium, Erbium, Europium, Gadolinium, Holmium, Lanthanum, Lutetium, Neodymium, Praseodymium, Promethium, Samarium, Scandium, Terbium, Thulium, Ytterbium, Yttrium)	Medical imaging. Electronic and computing equipment. Rechargeable batteries. Wind turbine blades. Electric vehicles
Rhenium	Oven filaments. X-ray machines. Solar technology
Selenium	Solar technology. Glassmaking. Pigments
Silica (Lump silica, silica sand)	Solar technology. Wind technology. Glass
Silver	Solar panels. Medicine. Water purification. Tantalum. Aircraft. Capacitor. Nuclear energy
Tellurium	Solar technology. Ceramics. Electronics
Tungsten	Solar technology. Wind turbine blades. Drill bits. Filaments (light bulbs)
Tin	Food product cans. Paints. Disinfectants. Chemicals. Solar technology
Titanium	Electric vehicles and battery storage. Wind technology. Fireworks
Vanadium	Solar grid batteries. Jet engines. Car suspension. Building frames
Zinc	Vehicles. Farm machinery. Water pipes. Wind technology
Zirconium	Steel alloys. Lamp filaments. Surgical instruments. Solar technology

**What it takes to build a wind turbine:** The following information is extracted from a fact sheet available from the following source: [www.mineralseducationcoalition.org](http://www.mineralseducationcoalition.org) Although it is not Australian based information (couldn't find any), it gives the reader an insight into what minerals are used to build a 'clean energy' machine.

## FACT SHEET

## WIND TURBINES

### What Mineral Products & Metals Are Needed To Make Wind Turbines?



- **Aggregates and Crushed Stone (for concrete):** Mined in the United States.
- **Bauxite (aluminum):** Mined in Australia, China, Brazil, India, Guinea, Jamaica, Russia, Venezuela, Suriname, Kazakhstan, Guyana and Greece.
- **Clay and Shale (for cement):** Mined in United States.
- **Coal (by-product coke is used to make steel):** Coal is mined world-wide, and constitutes 45% of the generation of U.S. electricity.
- **Cobalt (magnets):** Mined in Congo-Kinshasa, Canada, Zambia, Russia, Australia, China, Cuba, Morocco, New Caledonia and Brazil.
- **Copper (wiring):** Mined in Chile, United States, Peru, China, Australia, Russia, Indonesia, Canada, Zambia, Poland and Mexico.
- **Gypsum (for cement):** Mined in China, United States, Iran, Spain, Thailand, Japan, Canada, Italy, France, Australia, Turkey, India, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Egypt, Germany, United Kingdom, Algeria, Poland, Argentina and Austria.
- **Iron ore (steel):** Mined in China, Brazil, Australia, India, Russia, Ukraine, United States, South Africa, Iran, Canada, Sweden, Kazakhstan, Venezuela and Mexico.
- **Limestone (for cement):** Mined in United States.
- **Molybdenum (alloy in steel):** Mined in China, United States, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Canada, Armenia, Iran, Russia and Mongolia.
- **Rare Earth Oxides (magnets; batteries):** Mined in China, India and Brazil.

- **Zinc (galvanizing):** Mined in China, Peru, Australia, United States, Canada, India, Kazakhstan, Ireland and Mexico.
- **Silica Sand (for cement):** Mined in United States, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, Australia, France, Spain, Japan, Poland, Hungary, South Africa, Mexico, Austria, Iran, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Canada, Belgium, India, Bulgaria, Norway, Chile, Gambia, Turkey and Czech Republic.

### INTERESTING FACTS

- The foundation may contain over a thousand tons of concrete and rebar. Dimensions are often between 30-50 ft. across and 6-30 ft. deep.
- The average tower height is 229 ft. 8 in. Shafts are sometimes driven down farther to help anchor it. The platform is critical to stabilizing the immense weight of the turbine assembly.
- Depending on the model, industrial wind turbines can weigh between 164-334 tons, or more.
- 5,000 commercial-scale wind turbines were installed in 2008.
- Like old fashioned windmills, today's wind turbines use blades to collect the kinetic energy of the wind. The wind flows over the blades creating lift, like the effect on airplane wings, which causes them to turn. The blades are connected to a drive shaft that turns an electric generator to produce electricity.
- When the wind isn't blowing, other types of power plants must be used to make electricity.
- Wind turbines also use neodymium, boron and iron magnets in their construction and operation.
- The U.S. possesses the largest non-China rare earth resource in the world at the Mt. Pass Mine in California.

## Renewable Energy Generation in North Queensland – Kidston

The Kidston Mine is well known in North Queensland. The history of this mine dates back to 1907 when gold was first discovered in the area. Mining stopped in 1945, however re-opened many years later with mining on the site from 1985 until being permanently closed in 2001. The Kidston dam, otherwise known as Copperfield Dam has a capacity of 20,400 ML with 60,000ML of water overflowing seasonally and flowing down the Copperfield River.

Genexpower is a ASX listed company that is now generating power from this great site. (info provided from genex\_corporate\_presentation – [www.genexpower.com.au](http://www.genexpower.com.au))



 <b>250MW/2,000MWh</b> pumped storage <b>hydro</b>	 <b>First pumped hydro</b> project in Australia for 40 years	 <b>Third largest</b> electricity storage device in Australia
 <b>Low capex</b> due to unique reuse of exhausted mining pits	 <b>800 direct jobs</b> created	 Unlocks the <b>renewable generation potential</b> of North Queensland
 Adds much needed <b>system strength</b> to the weak North Queensland grid	 <b>Dedicated transmission</b> line unlocks the potential of the Kidston Clean Energy Hub at Kidston	 Helps the State achieve its <b>Renewable Energy Target of 50%</b> by 2030

As well as the above project Genex have invested in Solar Power. This is also located at Kidston with 540,000 solar panels installed with a project life of 30 years. These panels generate up to 145,000MWh of renewal electricity per year. Powering the equivalent of 26,000 Australian homes.



## Keeping your contact details updated with Department of Resources

### Update provided by the Department of Resources

It's one of the worst parts of moving – finding all the organisations that need to contact you and updating your address details with them. But when it comes to your resource permits, making sure that we have your current address, telephone number and (if you have one) your email address is critical.

We use these contact details to send out communication that is important for your resource permit – this might be a rent notice, reminder that a work program needs to be updated or an expiry reminder notice to let you know that it's time to renew.

We've noticed a worrying trend of clients losing a mining lease or mining claim due to expiry because they didn't get their expiry reminder notice. Many of these were because we sent those notices to an old postal address, or to an email address that is not monitored or is no longer used.

Where you have an email address registered with us, we will send all notices via email. *Please* make sure that you have the correct email address registered with us and that that you have the Department set as a safe sender. Otherwise, you may find that our communication will go to your spam or junk mail folders, depending on the sensitivity of your email providers filtering.

You can check the contact details for your mining permits at any time:

- By logging into MyMines Online (MMOL) and making sure that your details are correct;
  - You can find information about registering for MMOL here:  
<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/resources/minerals-coal/online-services/myminesonline>
- By requesting a public report online – go to <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/resources/minerals-coal/online-services/searches>
- Or, if you can't access either of these options, give the Mineral Assessment Hub a call on 4447 9230, or email us at [MineralHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au](mailto:MineralHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au)

### If you need to update your details, you can do this by:

- Logging into MMOL, going to the 'I want to' menu on the right-hand side and selecting the appropriate option from the 'Change Contact Details' menu. There is no fee.
- Completing the appropriate form and submitting to the Mineral Assessment Hub either via email at [MineralHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au](mailto:MineralHub@dnrme.qld.gov.au) or by mail to PO Box 1752, Townsville, QLD 4810

Forms can be accessed on the Business Queensland website:  
<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/resources/minerals-coal/authorities-permits/forms>

***The NQMA is a proud member of the Queensland Small Miners Council (QSMC). The QSMC is made up of 5 small mining associations working together to engage with government to ensure our voices are heard. I encourage all members to have a look at the website, <https://www.qsmc.org.au/> to see what we are up to collectively.***



Queensland Sapphire Miners Association Inc



North Queensland Gold Miners Association Inc



Queensland Opal Miners Association Inc



Queensland Boulder Opal Association Inc



Yowah Opal Mining Community Services Inc

## RESOURCES INFO LINE 137 107

Are you having concerns with a landholder? Has someone been trespassing on your mining lease? Have you seen something industry related that needs reporting?

The Department has a dedicated phone number for seeking information and reporting matters relating to field and land access, mining and fossicking. Collect as many details as you can, such as vehicle descriptions, number plates, offender description so you can provide it when you call.

Please contact Department of Resources on 137 107 or [resources.info@resources.qld.gov.au](mailto:resources.info@resources.qld.gov.au) to discuss your concerns or register a complaint.



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## Changes to DES Online Services

The Department of Environment and Science has been working to make Online Services even better. **Further changes to Online Services went live on Monday 16 August 2021.** The new features will build on the improvements released in late 2020, namely the removal of the Online user fee, a new home page with simpler navigation and controls and online submission of annual returns.

The upcoming changes will improve the way customers complete and submit applications online and manage their account. There will be a new look and feel, simplified processes and additional help text for improved user experience when applying for a new Environmental Authority (EA) or Estimated Rehabilitation Cost (ERC) decision, apply to amend an existing authority, in addition to paying annual fees, viewing annual notices, and annual returns.

What are the key features and changes?

- The online application process for new and amendment EA applications is being streamlined. Each question has been formatted and simplified, where possible.
- The type of EA being applied for will affect the questions asked. By removing unnecessary questions, it will reduce the amount of time customers spend completing the online form.
- Help text is being added for each step in the application. This will assist with completing the application form correctly resulting in less errors and a more positive experience overall.
- A pay later option is being added to the online application process. This is in addition to the pay now (online) and offline payment methods.
- The stage and status of an application is being added. This provides a 'real-time' update on the progress of an application, in addition to being able to view associated documents i.e. Notices, Permits, Invoices.
- New Online Services User Guides that provide step-by-step instruction for:
  - how to apply for new and amend EA
  - how to apply for a decision on the ERC
  - how to view and pay annual notices and invoices

### Where can you get more information and assistance?

Environmental authority holders and clients with applications in progress have been contacted about the changes and what they needed to do in advance of the changes.

You can find the changes to online services on our website after 8am (AEST) Monday, 16 August 2021at:

[Online Services \(Department of Environment and Science\) | Business Queensland](#)

Customers will also be able to view updated and new Online Services User Guides on Business Queensland website at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/online-services/user-guides>

If clients need any assistance, they can contact the Permits and Licensing team by emailing [palm@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:palm@des.qld.gov.au) or phoning 1300 130 372 (select option 4)

# FOR SALE/WANTED

## FOR SALE

### ML 20740

9 Ha at Fine Gold Creek in the Groganville Area

### ML 20468

6 ha Old alluvial mining processing site/tailings.

Send message to  
0439 530 712 or  
email [pc403@bigpond.com](mailto:pc403@bigpond.com)  
for more information.

## FOR SALE

### EPM 26321

21 sub-blocks on the North Palmer River. Expiry 1 May 2023.

### ML 20715

42.81 on the North Palmer River. Expiry 31 May 2028.

Contact Claire at Avoca Tenement Consulting on 07 4092 6743 for more information.

Are you looking to buy plant and equipment? Have a mining lease, or project you would like to sell? If so, email the details to [info@nqma.com.au](mailto:info@nqma.com.au) before 20 January 2022 to have your ad included in the next edition of the Miners Right.

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“There is no substitute for hard work!”

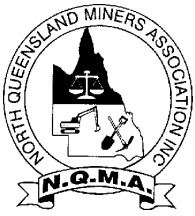
— Thomas Edison

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### **Editors Notes:**

The Miners Right is published every February, May, July, September and November, usually prior to the NQMA general meetings. The Miners Right is a great way to share information within our mining community. We are always looking for contributions to make the newsletter interesting and informative. If you would like to see something included or you can contribute stories, historical or general mining information please contact the editor. Members can also advertise their business, items for sale or wanted items without charge. Please send requests via email to [info@nqma.com.au](mailto:info@nqma.com.au).

**Disclaimer:** *While every effort is made to ensure that information provided in the Miners Right is correct, it should not be relied on when making decisions in relation for your business. The NQMA committee recommends that appropriate professional advice should be sought.*



# NORTH QUEENSLAND MINERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

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ABN 76 525 585 093

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I/We.....

the undersigned, being an eligible person, partnership, or company, hereby apply for Membership of the North Queensland Miners' Association Inc. (See eligibility clause below)

BUSINESS NAME.....

POSTAL ADDRESS.....

.....POSTCODE.....

CONTACT PERSON.....

Phone No during day: .....Fax No: .....

E-mail address if available.....

NUMBER and LOCATION of MINING TENEMENT/S held or ASSOCIATION WITH MINING INDUSTRY.....

.....

I/We hereby agree to comply with the Rules and Regulations as prescribed in the Constitution of the North Queensland Miner's Association Inc.

**Full Membership.** Enclosed herewith is Annual Membership Fee of \$100.00.

Eligibility for Membership: *'Any person, partnership or company who: is actively involved in mining or prospecting; holds or has an application for any mining tenure allowable under the Queensland Mineral Resources Act 1989 or any Act that replaces it; has a tenement before the Land and Resources Tribunal; or has a direct professional interest in the mining industry.'*

**Corporate Membership.** Enclosed herewith is Annual Membership Fee of \$250.00.

Eligibility for Membership: *'Any company which: is actively involved in mining or prospecting; holds or has an application for any mining tenure allowable under the Queensland Mineral Resources Act 1989 or any Act that replaces it; has a tenement before the Land and Resources Tribunal; or has a direct professional interest in the mining industry.'*

**Associate Membership.** Enclosed herewith is Annual Membership Fee of \$40.00.

Eligibility for Associate Membership: *'Any person or partnership who has interests in fossicking for gold, gems and metals; or any company or individual providing goods or services to the mining industry but not directly involved in mining.'*

SIGNED .....

DATE ...../...../.....

Please send Application Form to: NQMA Treasurer: PO Box 1548, Mareeba Qld 4880 or  
email: [info@nqma.com.au](mailto:info@nqma.com.au)

Payment can be by cheque, cash at the next meeting or EFT. (Preferred) Details:  
Bendigo Bank - BSB 633-108 - A/C 1287-02172 - North Qld Miners Assoc.

Tick the box if you would like meeting minutes emailed to you  and the Miners Right posted  (normally emailed) Page 11  
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