



THE MINER'S RIGHT

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

July 2022

NQMA General Meeting 1PM, Monday 11th July 2022 – Mareeba Leagues Club

Presidents Report

Happy July! And welcome into Winter. Hopefully your water is flowing just the way you need it, and mining is happening out there in Queensland. I understand everyone is head down bum up working at this time of the year!

On the Health side for any well rested (retired) Miners or Quarry Works there is free lung screening available. Have a look for the number and give them a call if you want to get your health checked.

There are a couple of updates within the newsletter on the Palmer River proposed dam and Native Title.

With the wet weather continuing in the North high grass will also be growing around the paddocks. Once the weather turns dry and closer to the storm season it is fairly normal practice for burn off practices to occur. We have included some advice on Fire Management.

We did announce in the last one that a representative regarding Bio-security would be at the meeting. Unfortunately, we couldn't secure this attendance, so we are re-publishing advice from our newsletter in 2020.

Membership renewals have been either emailed or mailed out recently. Thank you to all our valued members and we look forward to representing you for another 12 months. If there is anything that you would like NQMA to turn their attention to or to publish in the newsletter please drop a line to our email info@nqma.com.au

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
WEBSITE:
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 😊

Teams online meetings have been introduced to NQMA. If you can't make it to a meeting in person we now have the capacity to stream live into your office. If you would like to attend a meeting via TEAMS please send an email to info@nqma.com.au and we will send you a link!



Mine Dust – Retired Mines or Quarry Workers

www.rshq.qld.gov.au/miners-health-matters

As a coal mine, mineral mine or quarry worker, you matter to Queensland. So does your health.

Mine dust lung diseases (MDLD) have recently been diagnosed in some of the state's current and retired mine and quarry workers.

On this website you'll find essential information about mine dust lung diseases in Queensland – from development and diagnosis to the actions we can take together to prevent future cases.

**Are you a former or retired mine or quarry worker?
Phone 1300 445 715 to organise a free lung health check.**

Mine dust lung diseases (MDLD) can take up to 10 years or more to develop, and even longer to produce noticeable symptoms.

Prevention is the best defence, however, identifying the disease in its early stages can prevent it from progressing to a point where it can seriously impact on your career and quality of life.

Lakeland Irrigation Area Project (LIA- Palmer River Dam) - UPDATE

It was recently confirmed that the reference design is now complete, and the Draft Business Case (DBC) is being prepared for submission to Government in late June. The project manager, Brendan Short, stated that after that time, they hoped the Government will start to declare their level of support or otherwise for the project such that the next steps can be mapped out and shared with impacted parties.

As part of the Regional Water Security public forum held in late May at Dimbulah participants were provided with some update on the progress of the dam.

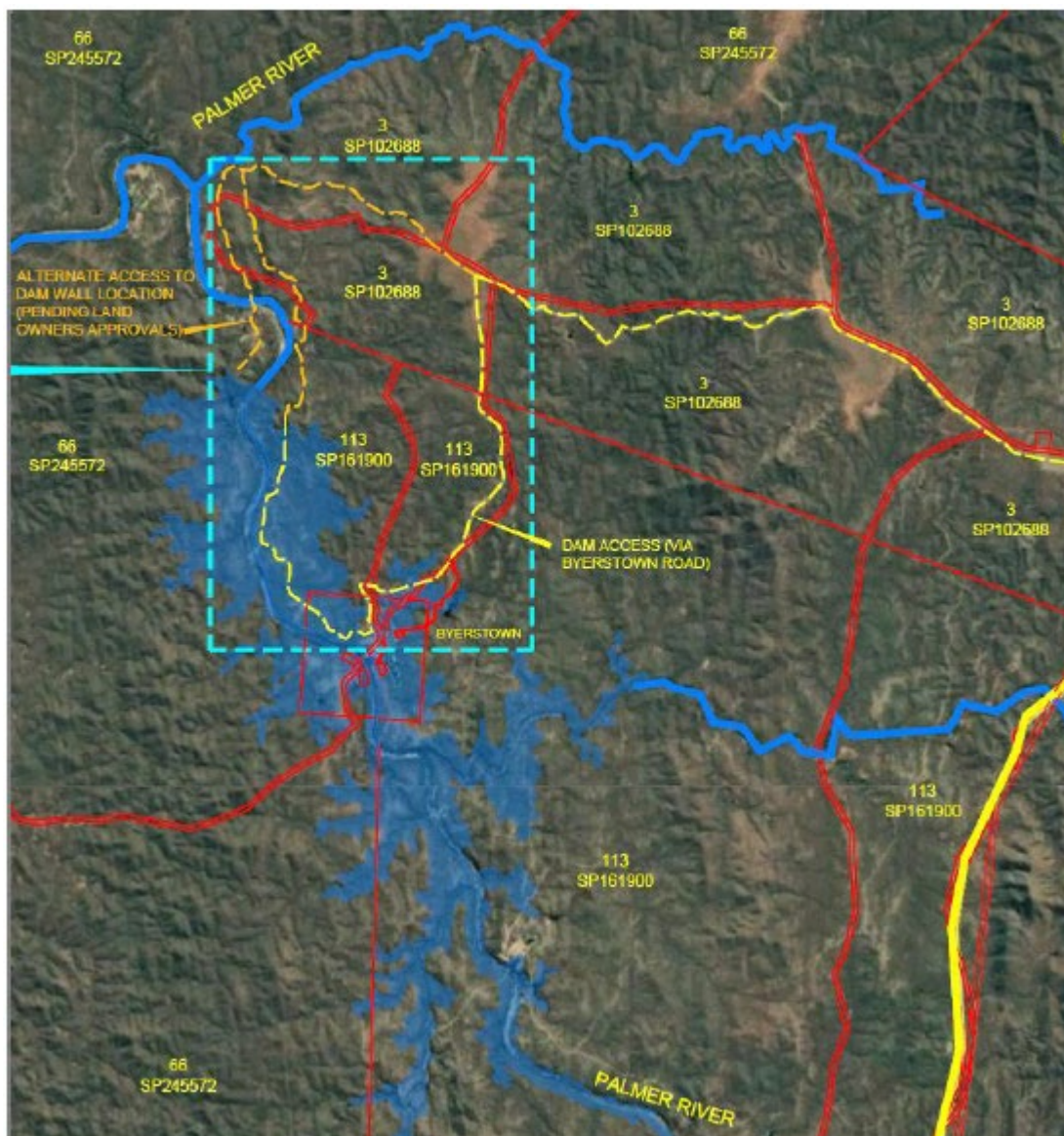
Further information can be found at the below link:

<https://www.rdatropicalnorth.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/PRS-01.01.2022-LIAS-Background-and-Timeline-Summary.pdf>

or

<https://www.rdatropicalnorth.org.au/about/initiatives/lakeland-irrigation-scheme/>

(map copied from the November 2020 Miners Right)



Native Title Matters

Presently there is a batch of Right To Negotiate (RTN) agreements involving Western Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation and miners.

There are two groups of miners involved in draft agreements which are in place. The framework is the same while the difference is a few varying terms and conditions.

At this stage the Agreements are ready for Community Consultation to get the Community's views on them which should also incorporate an Authorisation process at the same meeting.

In the event the Community Consultation does not pass one of the Agreements it will require further negotiation.

The Matter is deemed as 'Urgent' and as such it was proposed a letter be sent to the North Queensland Aboriginal Land Council and Western Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation giving them a statutory timeframe under the prescribed Body Corporates Act for organising a Community Consultation and Authorisation meeting. That timeframe is 4 weeks.

If they are unable to do that, it has been recommended that the National Native Title Tribunal be approached for either mediation or Future Act Determination applications be lodged in the Tribunal.

It was proposed that the Committee send a letter to the Departments' Native Title (NT) Services to invite them to a meeting so the Members could understand what is the NT Services role and should they be assisting the Miner to get these resources moving?

Miners are receiving invoices which are very late and incorrect amounts as well as GST is being charged. It is incorrect for the NT Parties to charge GST on compensation.

Members are strongly advised not to pay invoices until they are very clear on what is being charged.



The Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 identifies that it is illegal to light a fire in the open in Queensland without a permit, although there are some exemptions.

Lighting a non-exempt fire without a permit can attract serious penalties including on the spot fines or prosecution. The gravity of these penalties indicate how serious the Queensland Government is about ensuring the use of fire is authorised, used safely and in such a way that it doesn't adversely impact you or the community. When issued with a permit, permit holders are placed in a position of trust by QFES and are expected to understand and meet their responsibilities and obligations. Using a permit automatically indicates acceptance of those responsibilities and obligations.

YOUR FIRE, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

What do I need to know?

The permit

A permit is a legal document and can only be issued by a Chief Fire Warden or a Fire Warden in their area of responsibility. It authorises a person to light, maintain and use a fire only on the land described on the permit, during a set period of time and in accordance with the conditions on the permit, as identified by the Fire Warden. A permit is only issued by a Fire Warden if they agree that the:

- permit holder has confirmed there are no local laws or other restrictions which prohibit the lighting of a fire on the subject land,
- permit holder has sufficient knowledge and experience to manage the fire/s described on the permit,
- measures put in place will enable the use of fire to undertake the task required without adverse effect on life, property or the environment.

Permit holders:

- must have the permit in their possession before lighting the fire,
- must comply with all conditions on the permit, and
- cannot alter anything on a permit without the consent of the Fire Warden.

Protection from liability

Under the Act, if a person complies with the conditions and directions contained within the permit, the person will not incur any liability at common law for any loss, injury or damage caused by the fire, unless it can be shown that the person acted recklessly or maliciously.

Who do I need to notify?

Your neighbours

If you have been issued with a permit, you should have already notified your neighbours of your intention to apply for a permit to have a fire. This should have been done in enough time for them to object, make arrangements, or ask for you to conduct the fire in such a way that the impact on them is minimal.

72 hours is seen as a reasonable time to notify a neighbour of your intention to apply for a permit, however this can be at the discretion of the Fire Warden who may determine if a lesser or greater notification time is required.

Remember – although you have a right to apply for a fire permit and if granted, light a fire, your neighbours also have the right not to be affected by that fire.

Unless the Fire Warden changes the requirement on your permit, you also need to contact:

The local QFES Fire Communications Centre (Firecom)

You'll need to contact Firecom just before you light the fire (the Fire Warden will write the number on the permit). Firecom is responsible for taking reports of fires, e.g. 000 (triple zero) calls and requesting QFES resources accordingly. They need to know of any planned fires in an area to avoid unnecessary responses.

The local fire brigade

They are likely to be the first response unit that becomes aware of the fire.

Your Fire Warden may also stipulate on your permit that you are to notify certain parties of when you intend to light. If this is the case, you are obligated to do so.

When to light?

Under the Act, lighting a fire also means to maintain and use a fire. This means conditions on the permit apply for the entire time the fire is alight.

To ensure that you maintain control throughout the burn, you need to be aware of the weather conditions for the duration of the planned fire, not just at the time of lighting. For example, if the permit identifies that the fire cannot be lit if the wind exceeds 15 kph and if the wind is from the west, then these conditions must apply throughout the duration of the fire.

Permit holders should check the weather forecast prior to lighting to ensure the current and forecast conditions will not be outside those prescribed by the Fire Warden on the permit. You cannot control the weather, but by checking the conditions, you have the best chance of adhering to the requirements of the permit.

There are a number of useful weather sites on the internet, some of which provide daily forecasts (up to four days ahead) showing the temperature, relative humidity and wind strength and direction. A good site to obtain a general weather forecast for your area is [Bureau of Meteorology](#).

QFES has also developed a fire weather outlook application called the Fire Danger Rating Graphic which provides an outlook for a four day period. Under Fire Danger Rating Graphic are the Forest Fire Danger Rating and the Grassland Fire Danger Rating maps showing fire danger outlook across the State.

The maps provide a general picture of the fire danger in areas throughout the State, using the same colour scheme and ratings as the Fire Danger signs seen in most parts of Queensland. There is also a spreadsheet available on the same webpage if more detailed information is required.

Managing the Fire

It is your responsibility to ensure the fire you light does not affect other persons, properties or the environment.

If you are yet to apply for a permit, make sure you have correct information available for the Fire Warden. They will need details of where you plan to light the fire and how you intend to manage, control and contain the fire. Complete a written Application for Permit to Light Fire to ensure the Fire Warden has the information needed to make a decision whether or not to grant a permit. Applications for a Permit to Light Fire can be obtained from your Fire Warden, Rural Fire Service (RFS) Area Office or [here](#) (PDF, 504.77KB).

If you already have a permit, it means that the Fire Warden is satisfied with how you have demonstrated that you plan to manage the fire and how you will contain and control it. Make sure you follow the plan and abide by the conditions of the permit.

If your fire escapes from the planned boundaries of the fire or gets out of control in any way, your obligations (under the Act) are to:

- take all reasonable steps to extinguish or control the fire, and
- as soon as is practicable, report the existence and location of the fire by calling 000 (triple zero).

If you are at all concerned about the behaviour of the fire, act early.

YOUR FIRE, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

How long do I supervise the fire?

You need to supervise the fire for as long as necessary to ensure it doesn't escape.

The Permit to Light Fire states: "After burning, the perimeter of the burn must be made safe and the fire patrolled until there is no longer any risk of the fire escaping".

You can cease patrolling when the burnt area is cool, with no remaining heat source.

Gulf Savannah – Fire Forum

To register please go directly to their website at:
[Events - Gulf Savannah NRM](http://www.gulfsavannahnrm.org/nrm-events/Events-Gulf-Savannah-NRM) www.gulfsavannahnrm.org/nrm-events/



Free Event: Mareeba Fire Forum

TUESDAY 16 AUGUST

Learn best practice strategies to manage current and future fire risks to your property and improve your bushfire preparedness at this free event in Mareeba.

It will be a great opportunity to connect with other local property managers and hear from industry, researchers, QFES, Queensland Fire and Biodiversity Consortium, and more.

Afternoon tea and dinner provided. Registration essential for catering purposes.

For more details, contact Vickie:

0439 443 906 or vickie.mylrea@gulfsavannahnrm.org

Biosecurity in Queensland

All Queenslanders have a 'general biosecurity obligation' (GBO) under Queensland's [Biosecurity Act 2014](#). This means that everyone is responsible for managing biosecurity risks that are:

- under their control and
- that they know about or should reasonably be expected to know about.

Under the GBO, individuals and organisations whose activities pose a biosecurity risk must:

- take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk
- minimise the likelihood of causing a 'biosecurity event', and limit the consequences if such an event is caused
- prevent or minimise the harmful effects a risk could have, and not do anything that might make any harmful effects worse.

What is Biosecurity?

Biosecurity is the control of pests, disease and weeds in Australia. It involves the implementation of measures to reduce or minimise the risks to the spread of pests, disease and noxious weeds.

How does this affect Miners and Explorers?

Biosecurity obligations are causing a bit of tension between some Landholders and Miners. The risk of pest and disease introduction to an unaffected property is a real cause for distress as it can affect their ability to sell their meat/produce and may see the property quarantined for a period of time having lasting impacts on their livelihoods.

Advice provided in May by the office of the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries is per below.

"The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has consulted with the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and has determined that mining claim and mining lease holders have the right to cross 'access land' to get to their granted mining claim or lease (see sections 81(a)(b) and 276(1)(b) in the Mineral Resources Act 1989). Mining claim and mining lease holders also have the right to be on the area of the mining claim or lease and conduct mining activities. This means that these holders are permitted to enter these areas without complying with any biosecurity management plan. However, the compensation agreement the mining claim or mining lease holder has with the relevant landowner may include conditions, such as complying with the biosecurity management plan. This is able to be negotiated between the parties.

The position differs slightly for holders of Exploration Permits (EP) and Mineral Development Licences (MDL), depending on the circumstances. To gain access to the area of an EP or MDL the resource authority holder may need to cross private land and except in an emergency, this must be done with the relevant landholder's agreement, which cannot be unreasonably withheld. Compliance with a biosecurity management plan may be part of this agreement. In this case any entry requires at least 10 business days' notice to the landholder (unless a shorter period is agreed)."

If you have an Exploration Permit or Mineral Development Licence, you should also familiarise yourself with the requirements of [The Land Access Code 2016](#). For holders of mining leases and mining claims, the below resources may prove useful when implementing your own Biosecurity control measures/procedures.

DAF Publication - [Vehicle and machinery cleardown procedures](#)

DAF Publication - [Vehicle and Machinery INSPECTION PROCEDURE](#)

DAF Publication - [Queensland invasive plants and animals strategy 2019–2024](#)

WHATS IN MY MOBILE PHONE?

These minerals are required to make one Mobile Phone – how many people rely on mobile phones around the world? Maybe even a Mining protestor or two would use one of these?



- **Arsenic (gallium arsenide in the amplifier and receiver).** Mined in China, Chile, Morocco, Peru, Kazakhstan, Russia, Belgium and Mexico.
- **Copper (circuitry).** Mined in Chile, United States, Peru, China, Australia, Russia, Indonesia, Canada, Zambia, Poland, Kazakhstan and Mexico.
- **Gallium (gallium arsenide).** Mined in China, Germany, Kazakhstan and Ukraine.
- **Gold (circuitry).** Mined in China, United States, Australia, South Africa, Peru, Russia, Canada, Uzbekistan, Ghana, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Brazil, Mexico and Chile.
- **Magnesium compounds (phone case).** Mined in China, Turkey, North Korea, Russia, Slovakia, Austria, Spain, Australia, Brazil, Greece, India and the United States.
- **Palladium (circuitry).** Mined in Russia, South Africa, Canada, United States and Zimbabwe.
- **Platinum (circuitry).** Mined in South Africa, Russia, Canada, Zimbabwe, United States and Colombia.
- **Silver (circuitry).** Mined in Peru, Mexico, China, Australia, Chile, Russia, United States, Poland, Bolivia and Canada.
- **Tungsten (circuitry).** Mined in China, Russia, Canada, Austria, Bolivia and Portugal.
- A multitude of **petroleum products** are used in cellular phones.

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.

ML 40084 - 67 ha West Normanby River Nth Qld

ML 20621 - 17 ha West Normanby River Nth Qld

Send message to
0439 530 712 or
email pc403@bigpond.com
for more information.

WANTED

Hopper Feeder to feed small alluvial plant. Any type of hopper feeder considered, ie batching plant or bin and conveyor. Will pay good money for the right feeder.

Call 0419 657 607 or
07 4060 2267

WANTED TO BUY – TIN!

*Do you have drums of tin tucked away in your shed? Are you producing tin concentrates in North Queensland? Are you looking to start producing tin in North Queensland? If so please contact Desmond Looi – Director/Owner of LBP Consolidated (M) PLT (Selangor, Malaysia)
Tel: +6019-2618230 Email: lbp112@gmail.com*

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 before 20 April 2022 to have your ad included in the next edition of the Miners Right.

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.

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.*

Mining Services (we are here to help!)

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Herberton Laboratory....

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Specialising in cleaning gold hard rock and alluvial raw concentrates using a full-size Scott shaking table and amalgamation. Final concentrates can be smelted as required.

Other services include jaw and rolls crushing, ball milling, fine grinding, screening, and magnetic separation together with sulphide floatation of small bulk samples.

45 years' experience in tin, tungsten, tantalite, gold and base metals processing and plant design and operation – Call TONY KING at 07 40962185 or email tking@antmail.com.au

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

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 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

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 to discuss your concerns or register a complaint.



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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: treasurer@nqma.com.au

Payment can be by direct bank deposit, or by cheque to North Qld Miners Assoc:

Bendigo Bank - BSB 633-000 - Acc 128 702 172 ***Please record your name on the transfer***

Tick the box if you would like meeting minutes emailed to you and the Miners Right newsletter