

BHP Billiton Olympic Dam and Olympic Dam Project

Location:	Olympic Dam
Project Owner:	BHP Billiton
Project Status:	Environmental Approvals Received



Project Description

Current operation

Located 560km north of Adelaide, South Australia, Olympic Dam is a multi-mineral ore body. It is the world's fourth largest copper and gold deposit and the largest known uranium deposit. It also contains significant quantities of silver.

At Olympic Dam, BHP Billiton mines, processes, smelts and refines ore to final products. In recent years annual copper production has averaged about 180,000 tonnes, with 4,000 tonnes of uranium oxide, 80,000 ounces of gold and 800,000 ounces of silver.

The proposed expansion

In 2011 BHP Billiton received approvals from the Australian and South Australian governments to proceed with the Olympic Dam Project. Additionally, in 2011 BHP Billiton and the South Australian State Government negotiated a revised Indenture for the existing Olympic Dam operations and Olympic Dam Project. Following the approval of the Indenture the BHP Billiton Board announced \$US1.2 billion pre-commitment funds to allow for the purchase of long lead time items such as the mining fleet and accommodation units. During the 2012 calendar year it is expected that the BHP Billiton Board will consider a final investment decision for the Olympic Dam Project.

The proposed expansion is centred on the creation of a new open-pit mine that would eventually replace the existing underground mine. The proposed expansion would be a progressive development, requiring construction activity over several stages.

Industry Capability Network SA and BHP Billiton have set up a website where companies can register their interest in supplying to both the existing operation and the proposed expanded operation. To register your interest visit: www.bhpodp.icn.org.au
More information is available from www.bhpbilliton.com



Government
of South Australia

Department for Manufacturing,
Innovation, Trade,
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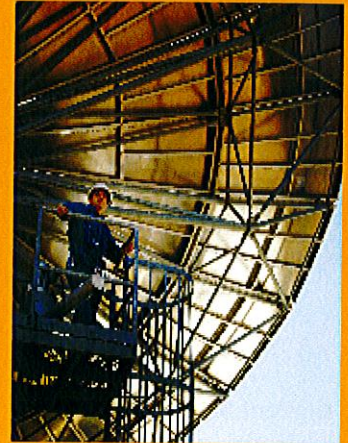
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