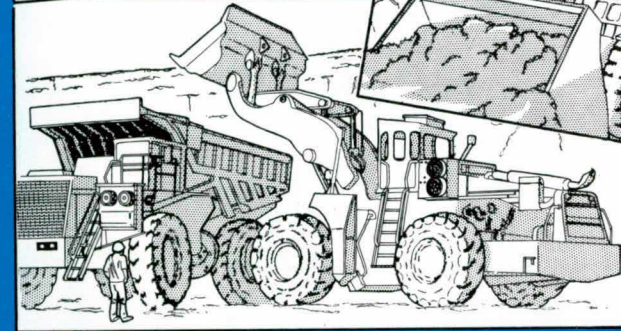
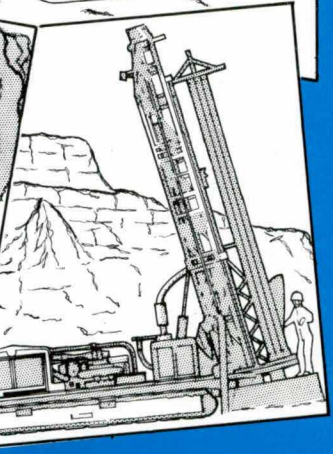
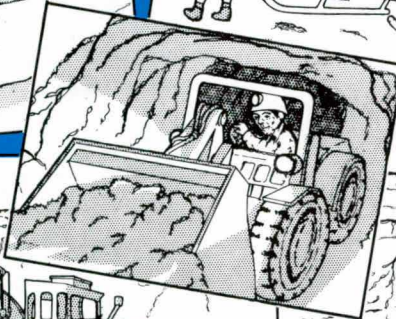
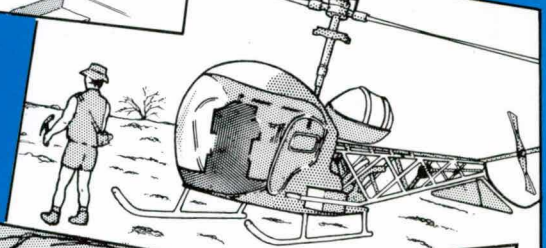
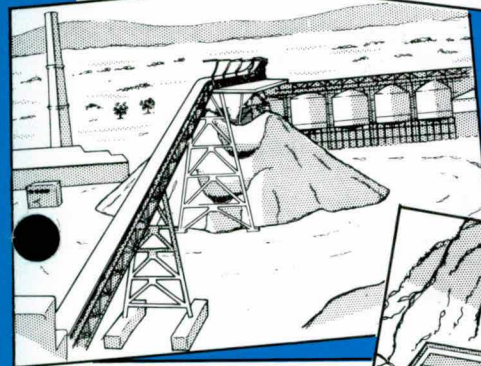
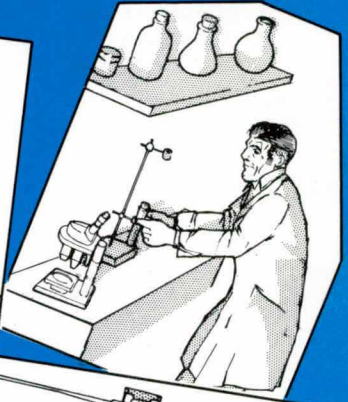
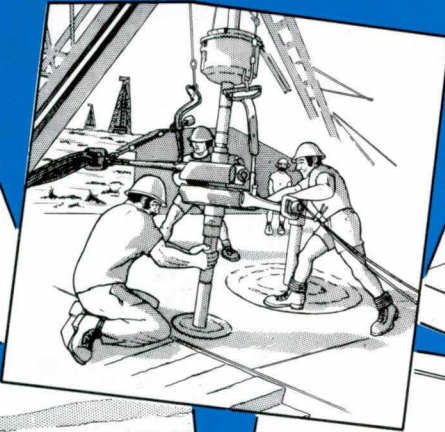


# MINERAL INDUSTRY QUARTERLY

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OCTOBER 1976

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# MINING NEWS

## New Copper discovery

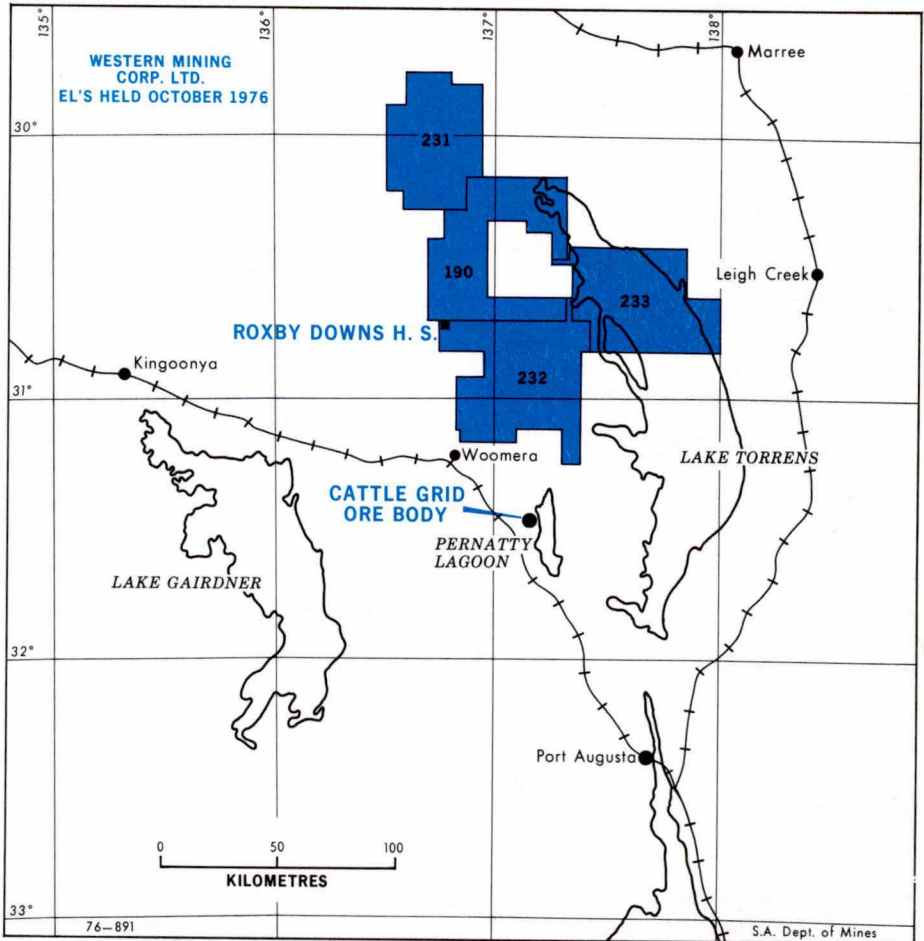
Western Mining Corporation Ltd. announced in the 1976 Annual Report that four drill holes near Roxby Downs Station "intersected copper mineralisation over widths of from 8 to 92 metres at a depth of about 350 metres, with grades of approximately 1% Cu."

Further details given by the W.M.C. Chairman (Mr. A.H. Parbo) at the annual meeting on the 18th November revealed that this could be a very significant mineral discovery.

The discovery at Olympic Dam, 80 km north of Woomera and 25 km west of Andamooka Opalfield, is located on Exploration Licence 190 in a totally concealed area with no surface outcrops.

Diamond drill hole RD10 (the tenth hole drilled) is reported to have intersected 169 metres of copper mineralisation, including 16 metres grading 3.42 per cent copper and 10 metres grading 4.38 per cent. The copper mineralisation was intersected from 348 metres below the surface.

Hole RD10 is situated 400 metres south of RD5 which intersected 92 metres grading 1.01 per cent copper, including 34 metres at 1.38 per cent,



and is 700 metres north of RD1 which intersected 38 metres averaging 1.05 per cent copper. In all cases "the top of the ore body has been intersected at between 340 metres and 400 metres, indicating that the ore body runs horizontal to the surface."

It is apparent that the Stuart Shelf has potential for developing into a major copper province which, because of an extensive cover of horizontal strata, will provide a challenge to the explorationist. As W.M.C. directors have stated - "a great deal more drilling will be necessary to establish the extent and grade of the occurrence."

Attention was originally drawn to this region following the discovery and subsequent successful development of the Cattlegrid copper deposit by CSR Ltd. at Mount Gunson.

## **Samin Ltd.—Burra operations**

On October 19th, 1976, Poseidon Ltd. was placed in receivership. The receiver manager, Mr. N.W. Buckley, was appointed by the company's biggest creditor, the Australian Industry Development Corporation.

The Poseidon Board advised that, "unexpected complexities, both legal and substantive, involved in seeking a solution to the problems occasioned by current world nickel market conditions and the extendant delays have raised severe problems for the interim financing of Poseidon's contribution to the Windarra joint venture with Western Mining Corporation.

"At the same time the recent dramatic fall in world prices of copper has eroded the viability of the Burra Operation".

"Finally the banker of Poseidon has advised that Poseidon can no longer rely on the overdraft facilities which have been available since the inception of the Windarra operation.

"Under all these circumstances the Board of Poseidon Ltd. has concluded that the appointment of a receiver offers the best hope for an ultimate arrangement in the interest of all parties".

Samin Ltd., the Poseidon subsidiary which operates the Burra copper mine and employs 62 people, was similarly placed in receivership on 2nd November.

The Company's Chairman, Professor E.A. Rudd, said recently that there was no need for Burra people to panic over the town's copper mine and that it was hoped to keep the operation going. Samin is reported to have incurred a \$2.1 million loss in 1974-5 and a \$1.3 million loss in 1975-6. However, the venture is reported to be "at present generating a positive cash flow".

## **Barytes mine for sale**

The S.A. Barytes Ltd. mine at Oraparinna and the mill at Quorn are being offered for sale by the company's receiver, Mr. I.B. Gray. At the Oraparinna (Bunkers) mine there are 12 mineral leases, mining plant and three transportable houses. The Quorn plant comprises crushing and mill equipment, a maintenance workshop and an office.

Tenders closed on 30th November.

## **Report released — Ranger Inquiry**

The first report of the Ranger Uranium Environmental Inquiry was released recently. The Principal Findings and Recommendations of this report are printed in full below:-

"These findings and recommendations are to be read and understood in the context of the Report as a whole and with particular reference to the sections of the Report in which they are respectively discussed.

1. The hazards of mining and milling uranium, if those activities are properly regulated and controlled, are not such as to justify a decision not to develop Australian uranium mines.

2. The hazards involved in the ordinary operations of nuclear power reactors, if those operations are properly regulated and controlled, are not such as to justify a decision not to mine and sell Australian uranium.
3. The nuclear power industry is unintentionally contributing to an increased risk of nuclear war. This is the most serious hazard associated with the industry. Complete evaluation of the extent of the risk and assessment of what course should be followed to reduce it involve matters of national security and international relations which are beyond the ambit of the Inquiry. We suggest that the questions involved are of such importance that they be resolved by Parliament.
4. Any development of Australian uranium mines should be strictly regulated and controlled.
5. Any decision about mining for uranium in the Northern Territory should be postponed until the Second Report of this Commission is presented.
6. A decision to mine and sell uranium should not be made unless the Commonwealth Government ensures that the Commonwealth can at any time, on the basis of considerations of the nature discussed in this Report, immediately terminate those activities, permanently, indefinitely or for a specified period.
7. Policy respecting Australian uranium exports, for the time being at least, should be based on a full recognition of the hazards, dangers and problems of and associated with the production of nuclear energy, and should therefore seek to limit or restrict expansion of that production.
8. No sales of Australian uranium should take place to any country not party to the NPT. Export should be subject to the fullest and most effective safeguards agreements, and be supported by fully adequate back-up agreements applying to the entire civil nuclear industry in the country supplied. Australia should work towards the adoption of this policy by other suppliers.
9. A permanent Uranium Advisory Council, to include adequate representation of the people, should be established immediately to advise the Government, but with a duty also to report at least annually to the Parliament, with regard to the export and use of Australian uranium, having in mind in particular the hazards, dangers and problems of and associated with the production of nuclear energy.
10. The Government should immediately explore what steps it can take to assist in reducing the hazards, dangers and problems of and associated with the production of nuclear energy.
11. Policy with regard to the export of uranium should be the subject of regular review.
12. A national energy policy should be developed and reviewed regularly.
13. Steps should be taken immediately to institute full and energetic programs of research and development into (a) liquid fuels to replace petroleum and (b) energy sources other than fossil fuels and nuclear fission.
14. A program of energy conservation should be instituted nationally.
15. The policy of the Government should take into account the importance to Australia, and the countries of the world, of the position of developing countries concerning energy needs and resources.

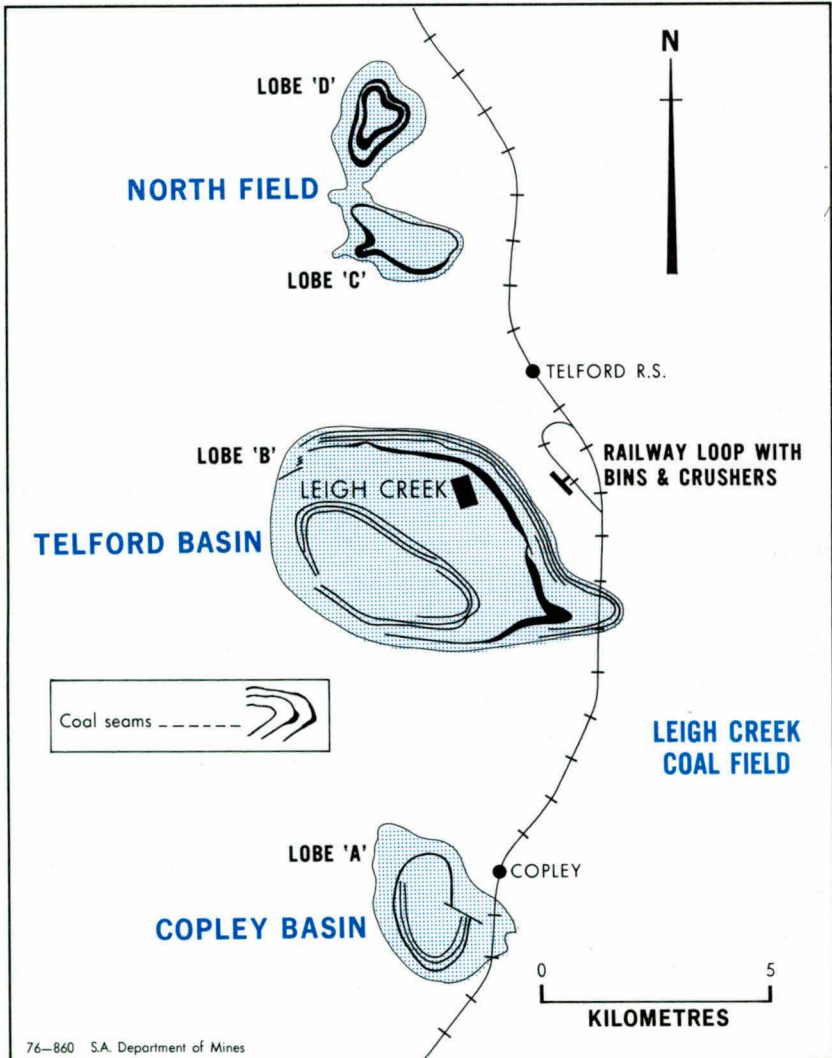
Our final recommendation takes account of what we understand to be the policy of the Act under which the Inquiry was instituted. It is simply that there should be ample time for public consideration of this Report, and for debate upon it. We therefore recommend that no decision be taken

in relation to the foregoing matters until a reasonable time has elapsed and there has been an opportunity for the usual democratic processes to function, including, in this respect, parliamentary debate."

## Leigh Creek to increase coal production

The Electricity Trust of South Australia has disclosed that over the next ten years the production of coal from Leigh Creek will be increased from the 1.8 million tonnes mined in 1975 to approximately 3.0 million tonnes per annum to meet the expanded requirements of the Playford Power Station at Port Augusta.

A new railway loop and new primary and secondary crushers have recently been installed east of Leigh Creek township (see map) to handle the output from Telford Basin.



## Chairman's Report — A.I.M.M.

Mr. R.K. Johns, Chairman of the Adelaide Branch of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in presenting his report to the annual meeting held at the Australian Mineral Foundation on October 28th, 1976 said that the highlights of the year included the Essington Lewis Memorial Lecture presented by Dr. R.K. Warner, Chief, Production Division, Uranium Branch of the A.A.E.C. and the Seminar, "Landscaping and land use planning as related to mining operations". During the five-day seminar, 21 papers were presented and field inspections were made to mining and quarrying operations near Adelaide.

The Chairman reported that the acquisition of the Aclare Mine for the S.A. Institute of Technology student training purposes is due to reach finality after protracted negotiations. The lease agreement which conferred title to the Aclare Mine has now been transferred from the Minister of Mines and Energy to the Institute.

The results of a panel discussion with student counsellors and careers officers from secondary schools in the Metropolitan area was also reported. The panel comprised Mr. F.R. Hartley as Chairman, Professor E.A. Rudd (geology), Mr. M.T. Phillips (mining) and Mr. A.L. Keats (metallurgy) and the theme was "Careers in the mineral industry". As a result of these discussions, the Committee decided to write to the Minister of Mines and Energy expressing concern for employment outlook in the mineral industry and the marked fluctuation in recent demand for graduates. In pointing out that the national economy was very dependent on a stable mining industry the letter expressed disquiet over availability of a reservoir of experienced professional people in the future. The letter recommended for Government consideration the adoption of a policy to employ graduates on a temporary basis to sustain them during periods of low industry demand.

### Flinders Ranges exploration

Western Mining Corporation has bought into an exploration venture with North Flinders Mines Ltd. Through this arrangement WMC may earn a 90 per cent stake and assume management of an Exploration Licence in the Wooltana area by meeting the cost of proving the commercial viability of any project.

### Kapunda historical survey

A grant of \$5,400 from the Utah Foundation will enable the South Australian Museum to undertake an historical survey of the old mining town of Kapunda, dating from 1842 when the copper mines were opened. The Survey will provide a complete record of the town and "would supply the Government with a value scale for making decisions on a town's heritage".

## MINERAL EXPLORATION

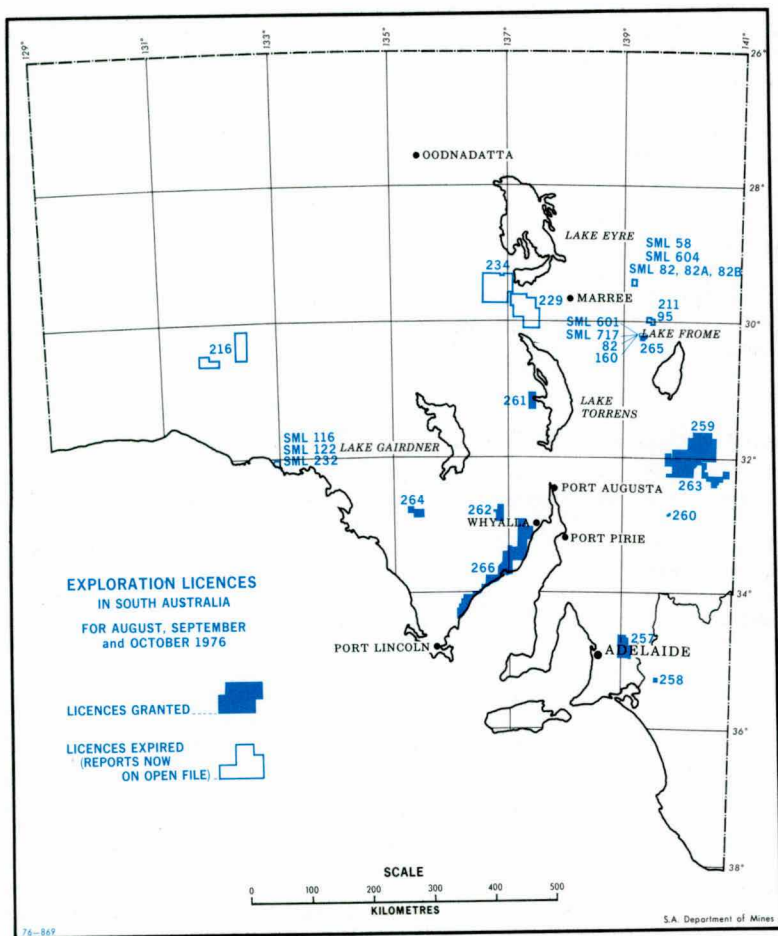
At 31st October, 1976, 72 Exploration Licences were current or under application over a wide area of the State with 30 companies being engaged in exploration. Principal interest is centred on the Stuart Shelf (copper) and in the search for uranium in the Frome Embayment.

### Exploration Licences

Tabulated below are licences which have been granted or have expired during the last three months.

EXPLORATION LICENCES GRANTED AUGUST-SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

| No. | Licensee                                       | Term   | Expiry Date | Area km <sup>2</sup> |
|-----|--|--------|-------------|----------------------|
| 257 | C.R.A. Exploration Pty. Limited                | 1 year | 29.8.77     | 756                  |
| 258 | Adelaide Brighton Cement Ltd.                  | 1 year | 9.9.77      | 45                   |
| 259 | Carpentaria Exploration Company Pty. Ltd.      | 1 year | 12.9.77     | 2 345                |
| 260 | Sasearch Pty. Ltd.                             | 1 year | 12.9.77     | 17                   |
| 261 | Australian Selection (Proprietary) Ltd.        | 1 year | 12.9.77     | 309                  |
| 262 | Nissho Iwai Co. (Australia) Pty. Limited       | 1 year | 22.9.77     | 358                  |
| 263 | Esso Exploration and Production Australia Inc. | 1 year | 22.9.77     | 2 205                |
| 264 | Sadex Pty. Ltd.                                | 1 year | 7.10.77     | 347                  |
| 265 | Oilmin N.L. & Transoil N.L.                    | 1 year | 17.10.77    | 52                   |
| 266 | Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd.               | 1 year | 24.10.77    | 3 564                |



### Exploration Licences surrendered or expired

Reports which have been placed on open file during the quarter include the following:-

|  | <u>Licensee</u>                          | <u>Envelope No.</u> | <u>Locality</u> |
|--|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| SML 116  | Peninsula Prospecting & Mining Pty. Ltd. | 735,764,1274        | Lake MacDonnell |
| SML 122  | " " " "                                  | " " "               | Lake MacDonnell |
| SML 232  | " " " "                                  | 902,1051,1115       | Lake MacDonnell |
| Drilling and assessment of gypsum and lime sand deposits; feasibility of sulphur production and recovery of sodium carbonate.  |  |                     |                 |
| SML 601  | Utah Development Co.                     | 1731                | Yudnamutana     |
| SML 717  | " " " "                                  | 2160                | "               |
| EL 82  | " " " "                                  | 2318                | "               |
| EL 160   | " " " "                                  | 2493                | "               |
| Detailed geological mapping and geochemical sampling; 60 holes drilled for a total of 8,280 metres.  |  |                     |                 |
| EL 216   | Dampier Mining Co. Ltd.                  | 2691                | Ooldea          |
| Photogeology and regional helicopter reconnaissance to locate iron bearing formations unsuccessful. Spot drilling (3 holes total 300 metres) failed to locate expected lignites. |  |                     |                 |
| EL 229   | Endeavour Oil Co. N.L.                   | 2722                | Stuart Creek    |
| Three drill holes - total 203 metres, failed to locate anticipated coal.   |  |                     |                 |
| EL 234   | Endeavour Oil Co. N.L.                   | 2731,2741           | Coward Springs  |
| Two drill holes - total 122 metres failed to intersect expected coal.  |  |                     |                 |
| SML 58   | Industrial Rock Mines Pty. Ltd.          | -                   | Mount Fitton    |
| SML 82,<br>82A,82B   | " " " "                                  | 604,1228            | " "             |
| SML 604  | " " " "                                  | 2372                | " "             |
| EL 95  | Steetley A/asia Pty. Ltd.                | 2372                | " "             |
| EL 211   | Steetley Industries Ltd.                 | 2685                | " "             |
| Exploration for talc (and magnesite) within the Balcanoonca Formation conducted over a period of 13 years.   |  |                     |                 |

## **PETROLEUM NEWS**

### **New gas discovery in the Cooper Basin**

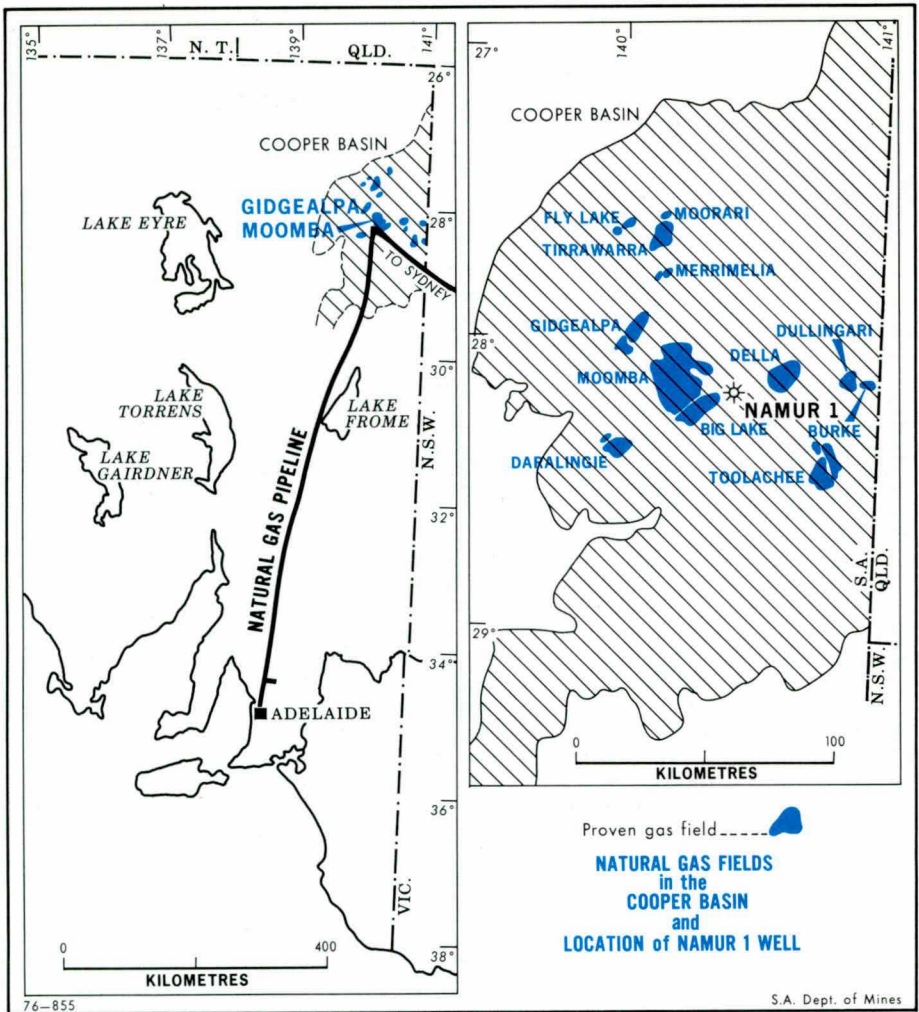
An important new discovery of gas in the Cooper Basin, in the north-east of the State, was announced on 28th October. A wildcat well, Namur No. 1, disclosed natural gas, which flowed at a rate of 13.9 MMCFD (million cub. ft. per day) during a test, in the Jurassic Mooga Formation. The gas-bearing sands were intersected at a depth of 5,300 feet. These test results show that the rocks could be capable of producing gas at high flow rates but no estimate of the reserves can be made until further drilling has been carried out.

Natural gas has been found in rocks of this age in South Australia previously only in trace quantities and the discovery opens up new prospects for further discoveries in formations of the Great Artesian Basin.

Dullingari 4 was spudded on 30th August and was completed as a successful shut-in gas well at T.D. 8,935 feet on 17th September.

### **Cooper Basin Development Committee**

The South Australian Government has set up a six-man committee to advise the Government on issues relating to the Cooper Basin. The Minister of Mines and Energy (Mr. H.R. Hudson) in announcing these appointments on 28th October said "The importance of the Cooper Basin as an energy source has made it necessary for the Government to become increasingly involved in its development. The matters under consideration involve complex technical, financial and legal considerations as well as matters of Government policy.



They include issues arising out of allocation of gas supply to New South Wales as well as to South Australia. The Government's aim is to ensure the proper development and utilisation of the resource in the State and National interest."

## STATE ENERGY COMMITTEE REPORT

The report of the State Energy Committee of South Australia was recently released and is available for sale at the Department of Mines at a price of \$1.50.

Under the heading "Specific Recommendations", the Committee recommends that the South Australian Government:-

- (1) Establish a committee or authority, responsible to the Minister of Mines and Energy, to co-ordinate the energy supply activities of the State. Such a body should include considerable expertise in energy supply. Although the State Energy Committee has given

some consideration to the possible composition of such a body and conceivable terms of reference, the Committee recognises that these are matters on which the Government may itself have an opinion. We therefore feel that we should at present limit the extent of this recommendation to the foregoing, but if requested, would be pleased to convene for the purpose of assisting in nominating the form of the body and in outlining its charter.

- (2) Expand its existing policy of active encouragement of exploration for all forms of fuel and energy resources as soon as possible.

In particular:-

- (a) An increased rate of exploration for petroleum and natural gas should be encouraged both onshore and offshore and early concentrated efforts should be made to establish the ultimate reserves of the Cooper Basin.
  - (b) Investigation and evaluation of known South Australian coal deposits should be undertaken and completed quickly, to enable a decision to be reached by late 1977 regarding the source of coals to be used for electricity generation later this century. The urgency is pronounced because if new mining operations are to be undertaken they should be in production in the mid 1980's.
- (3) Support exploration programmes indirectly through actions which:-
- (a) Allow for prices for gas and oil which will provide incentives for continuing exploration.
  - (b) Encourage schemes for using the liquid hydrocarbons which form a large energy resource in the Cooper Basin and thereby ensure maximum utilisation of the existing fields -decisions on this aspect are required within the next few years.
- (4) Conduct a detailed investigation into final uses of energy with a view to determining whether any rationalisation is required.
- (5) In view of South Australia's status in the manufacture of solar energy water heaters and because of the potential industrial value of such equipment if it could operate at somewhat higher temperatures, examine the best manner in which the State might encourage research and development in this area with particular emphasis on practical application.
- (6) Appoint an expert committee to study and define the legal aspects of individual rights to sunlight with the aim of avoiding impediments to its use by appropriate legislation and regulation.
- (7) Encourage the use of car pools and, to this end, eliminate any legal or other restrictions which currently hinder their widespread adoption.
- (8) Actively promote the concept of using moderate temperatures within buildings.
- (9) Encourage the more common adoption of building designs which optimise natural temperature control, e.g. through more appropriate orientation of buildings and the use of insulation materials.
- (10) Consider the reservation of a proportion of royalties received for fuel and energy resources mined in the State to assist in financing such energy research work as is required in the State.
- (11) Consider the establishment of facilities in Amdel to undertake coal or other fuel research work as needs be sponsored by the Government.
- (12) Employ taxation principles or other schemes which as far as possible either promote energy conservation or encourage the use of relatively abundant sources of energy rather than those forms in scarce supply.
- (13) Undertake periodic reviews of petroleum storage capacity within the State.

## Address by Chairman

The Chairman of the State Energy Committee, Mr. W.M. Scriven, addressed a meeting of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy at the Australian Mineral Foundation, on the 23rd September, 1976 on the subject of "The Future Energy Requirements of South Australia"; a synopsis of his talk follows.

" Action taken by the OPEC countries in 1973 to decrease oil production and increase prices initiated energy planning studies in many countries.

" While many countries have undertaken such studies, the Australian record in regard to encouragement of exploration for oil has been poor and with present policies the nation's present day 70% self-sufficiency will deteriorate to negligible self-sufficiency at the turn of the century with attendant balance of payments problems. Incentives for oil exploration in Australia are overdue.

" It is generally accepted that the so-called "clean energy" technologies such as solar, wind or fusion will not provide significant energy as a percentage of any nation's requirements until some time in the next century. Given the over-development of the world's liquid hydrocarbon resources, only two possible "bridges" can be used to span the time gap. These "bridges" are solid hydrocarbons and nuclear fission.

" For many countries the solid hydrocarbon route is not an option because of the major logistic and environmental problems associated with the mining, transportation and burning of massive quantities of coal. Countries such as the United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom and France have indeed long since embarked on fission programmes using natural or enriched fuel and are now at the decision making stage on fast breeder introduction.

" For some States in Australia the coal bridge may be feasible, but South Australia is in a position where it cannot afford to have a nuclear option pre-empted by ill-considered argument. There is an urgent need for the presentation of balanced and responsible information to be made available to the public and the Fox Inquiry Report will be of major significance to South Australia.

" It is very probable that none of the "new technologies" such as solar, fusion, wind, geothermal, tidal or sea temperature gradients will provide significant energy for South Australia before the turn of the century and possibly well beyond."

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Maps

MURLOOCOPPIE 1:250 000

State Geophysical Map 1:1 000 000

Total magnetic intensity map of South Australia (paper prints).

Transparencies to be released soon.

### Reports

#### Geochemistry

76/100 R.S. Robertson - Geochemical Survey of the Truro 1:63 360 Sheet.

#### Stratigraphy

76/105 R.A. Callen - 25th International Geological Congress Section 12 - Late Cainozoic Environments. Part of Northern South Australia, with Particular Reference to Neogene Clay Mineralogy.

76/119 G.M. Pitt and L.C. Barnes - Silcrete Sediments and Stratigraphy.

76/123 B.J. Cooper - Tertiary Stratigraphy of a new bore in the Inkerman/Balaklava Coalfield.

### Engineering

76/113 J.K. Taylor - Soils of the Southern Adelaide Region.

### Industrial Minerals

76/117 D.C. Scott - Turquoise Occurrence - Near Mt. John, Flinders Ranges.

### Metallurgy

76/129 R.J. Allen - Moonta and Wallaroo Mines, Prospects for in-situ Teaching.

## The Natural History of the Adelaide Region

This year the Royal Society of South Australia is commemorating its 100th year of publication of scientific journals. To mark this occasion the Society is publishing "The Natural History of the Adelaide Region" as a 170 page volume. Twenty seven scientists have contributed to this work which will be the most comprehensive and informative treatment of this subject available. As such it will have wide appeal to secondary and tertiary students and will cater also to the increasing public interest in natural history and the environment.

The volume will be available from the following outlets.

Royal Society Rooms,  
State Library Building,  
North Terrace,  
Adelaide.

South Australian Museum,  
North Terrace,  
Adelaide.

South Australian Department of Mines,  
191 Greenhill Road,  
Parkside.

State Information Centre,  
Grenfell Centre Plaza,  
25 Grenfell Street,  
Adelaide.

and from leading booksellers. Price \$5.95.

## UNDERGROUND WATER

Since the introduction of the Water Resources Act, 1976, a number of enquiries have been received regarding Well Permits, and the licensing of drillers.

It is not necessary for bores drilled under the Mining and Petroleum Acts to have a permit or for the driller to be licensed, unless the bore is to be used for water production or drainage. If a mineral exploration well is converted to a production or drainage well, however, it will require a permit and the work must be carried out by a licensed driller.

It is apparent that, in their own interest, drillers engaged in mineral exploration should obtain a licence for conversion work or production wells. Enquiries concerning licences should be directed to Geoff Griffin, Phone 272-5711.

The Department maintains regional offices to provide advice on underground water at the following centres:-

CRYSTAL BROOK  
ANGASTON  
NARACOORTE  
MOUNT GAMBIER

Telephone  
(086) 36 2002  
(0857) 4 2362  
(087) 62 1331  
(087) 25 3530

A display caravan has been prepared for attendance at country agricultural shows to publicise Departmental activities in underground water research.

## GEMSTONES

### Andamooka Opalfield

The Government subsidised mining scheme closed on 3rd September, 1976 with the expenditure of \$6,018.30.

Of the 71 agreements signed, subsidies were paid on 65 for work done as follows:-

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Shafts completed but no opal level ..... | 10 |
| Shafts sunk to opal level .....          | 55 |
| Drives completed to 12 m .....           | 28 |
| Drives partly completed .....            | 16 |
| No driving .....                         | 11 |

As a result of the scheme, Stan's Hill has become an important field and raw opal worth more than \$300,000 has been mined since the discovery of precious opal in subsidised shaft No. 17 in late May, 1976.

All 59 accessible shafts of the 69 unsubsidised shafts sunk on Stan's Hill by 7.9.76 have been mapped and surveyed by geologists.

Elsewhere, traces of colour, patch or matrix were found in 11 other widely dispersed shafts. Follow-up work near these sites is obviously worthwhile.

The data collected during this investigation is being assembled for permanent display on a Departmental notice board to be erected at Andamooka.

### Turquoise

A turquoise occurrence near Mt. John in the eastern Flinders Ranges has been reported recently (R.B. 76/117).

Blue-green turquoise has formed as a cement in silcrete within a ferruginous layer in sandstone of the lower Cambrian Parachilna Formation.

Although of good colour, the presence of quartz grains prevents the production of a high polish. Prospecting along strike may locate patches of better quality material.

### Morion

A deposit of large terminated dark grey to black quartz crystals, called morion (after a locality in Scotland) has been found between Cowell and Kimba on Eyre Peninsula.

The crystals have formed in drusy cavities in a fault zone within quartzites of the Cleve Metamorphics.

The claim holder intends to sell specimens to gemmologists and mineral collectors.

### Nephrite Jade—Cowell

Stage III of the jade development programme now completed resulted in the recovery of trial samples from seven outcrops. The recovered material is of varying quality and exhibits a range of colours from pale green to almost black. It is proposed that finished articles be prepared by students at the O'Halloran Hill Technical College to promote this product.

## MINES DEPARTMENT CORE LIBRARY

Tenders have closed for the construction of a \$1.5 million core library to house the 152,400 metres of core, rock and mineral samples held by the Department, at Glenside. It is expected that the building will be completed by the end of 1977.

The new building will comprise part of the Mineral Science Centre at Glenside which will eventually include a new headquarters building for the Department of Mines.

## IN THE WARDEN'S COURT

In September responsibility for the administration of the Wardens and the Warden's Court was transferred from the Department of Mines to the Premier's Department.

Applications were made recently by the Director of Mines to cancel 27 precious stones prospecting permits of miners at Coober Pedy who had pegged claims but failed to work them. In Director of Mines v Agouridis (plaint 5/75), the Court had ruled that the pegging of claims, solely to exclude other miners from an area, without working them was a matter of sufficient gravity to justify cancelling a permit. Accordingly, the Court cancelled 22 of the permits for varying terms. The remaining five applications were dismissed.

The rehearing of Tanfara v Georgiev (plaint 303/74), referred to Issue No. 3 was completed and judgement given. This matter concerned the rights of a miner working on percentage on someone else's claim, and the right of the claimowner to terminate the agreement. The Court found that in many cases where miners said they were partners, there was not a partnership at law. In this case it was found that the miner who had been excluded was in fact a partner and he was awarded compensation.

Bone v Wacyk (plaint 247/76), in which a lease over the Tumby Bay talc mine was forfeited, concerned maintenance of pegs. The Court found that the lease had never been pegged and that the breach of the regulations could not be regarded as a technical one.

An appeal against the decision in Christianos v Minefields Exploration N.L. (plaint 339/75) not to forfeit the leases over the Truro talc deposit is currently before the Supreme Court.

It is apparent that many persons in the industry treat the pegging out of claims very casually. This applies not only to the small mineral prospector and the opal miner but also to some mining companies.

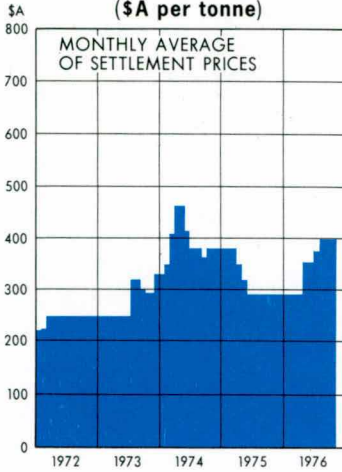
With so much at stake it is difficult to understand this attitude.

The Mining Act of 1971 removed the old 'sudden-death' situation regarding forfeiture by giving the Warden's Court considerable discretion in deciding whether 'the matter is of sufficient gravity' and in consequence forfeiture for technicalities has disappeared. The Court, however, has no discretion if it is proved that a purported tenement had not been legally acquired in the first place. For example, undersized or incorrectly marked pegs are used in pegging out and some claims bear little resemblance to a rectangle. So far as maintenance is concerned, the Court has said that it does not expect miners to watch their pegs 24 hours a day, but some tenement holders, whether still evaluating their tenement or actually producing from it, do not appear to examine their pegs for months on end.

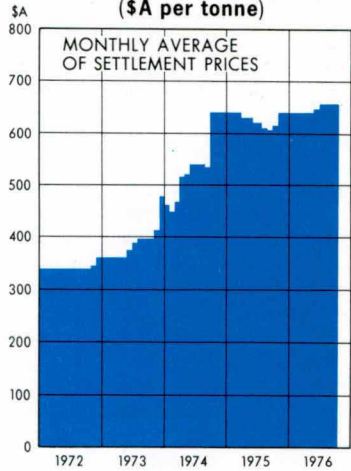
Little can be done to assist companies or persons who do not take a reasonably responsible attitude towards pegging out or maintenance of pegs.

## METAL PRICE MOVEMENTS

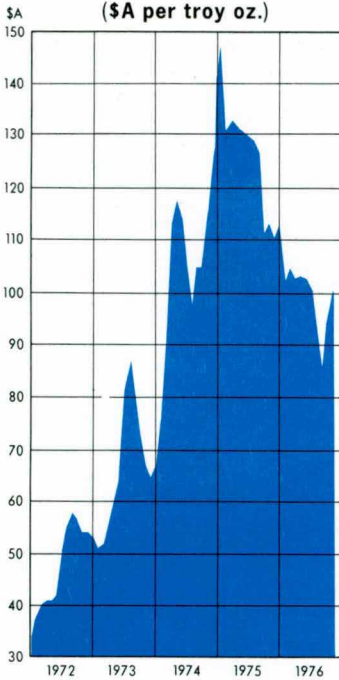
**AUSTRALIAN LEAD PRICE**  
(\$A per tonne)



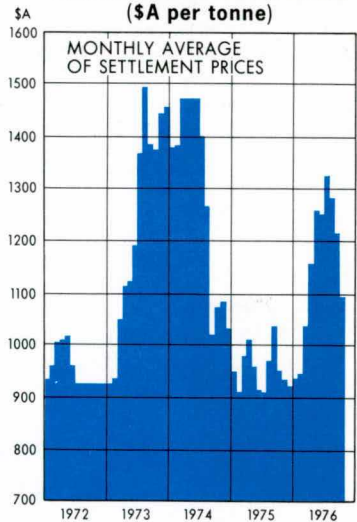
**AUSTRALIAN ZINC PRICE**  
(\$A per tonne)



**AUSTRALIAN GOLD PRICE**  
(\$A per troy oz.)



**AUSTRALIAN COPPER PRICE**  
(\$A per tonne)



## PEOPLE IN THE INDUSTRY

PETER DUNLOP, formerly Editor and Senior Technical Information Officer has retired after 23 years service with the Department of Mines.

DR. ALF KLEEMAN, Reader in Geology, University of Adelaide has retired.

DAVID STAPLEDON, at present associated with Coffey & Hollingsworth Pty. Ltd., has accepted an appointment as Head of Applied Geology, S.A. Institute of Technology.

DAVID FURBER has accepted a position with the South Australian Department of Further Education in Adelaide.

MIKE HOUSTON, formerly Mine Superintendent, Mt. Gunson Mines Ltd., has resigned to take up appointment as Mine Manager, Ardlethan Tin N.L. at Ardlethan, N.S.W.

MAX SCRIVEN, Director of Development, Premier's Department, has been appointed to the post of South Australian Agent General in London.

JOHN GOODEN, formerly O.I.C. Chemical Metallurgy Section, Australian Mineral Development Laboratories resigned this position on 30th July.

RALPH BYLES has resigned from Poseidon Ltd. and has accepted a position in Melbourne as Assistant to the Managing Director of MINENCO, a C.R.A. subsidiary.

DICK WRIGHT has left Poseidon Ltd.

CHARLIE BARNES has resigned his position as Senior Geologist, S.A. Department of Mines and has accepted a position as Senior Materials Geologist with Quarry Industries Ltd., based in Adelaide.

DR. STEVE SCOTT, an Associate Professor in the Department of Geology, University of Toronto is visiting fellow at the University of Adelaide for 9 months. Steve's main interests are massive sulphide orebodies, and he will be doing work on Broken Hill during his stay in Australia.

NOEL HIERN has been appointed Supervising Geologist, Resource Planning Division of the S.A. Department of Mines to co-ordinate activities concerned with mining and the environment.

DR. TIM O'DRISCOLL of W.M.C. has been awarded the President's Medal of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy for 1976 for his contributions to science.

ZAC SIBENALER and MICHAEL COBB have opened up regional offices of the Department of Mines at Crystal Brook and Angaston respectively.

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