

## MOU promises benefits for both South Australia and Chile

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) for bilateral cooperation in the mining industry has been established between the Geological Survey of South Australia and SERNAGEOMIN, the National Geological and Mining Survey of Chile. The MOU was signed in Adelaide on 2 July by the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy, Hon Tom Koutsantonis MD, and the Chilean Minister of Mining, His Excellency Hernán Eduardo de Solminihac Tampier. Chile and South Australia are two of the world's most prospective copper provinces – Chile has the world's largest copper reserves and South Australia has 70% of Australia's known copper reserves, including three of Australia's most significant new copper discoveries in the past 10 years.

The exchange of geoscience data and mineral exploration expertise as part of reciprocal visits will increase scientific and technical cooperation and spur further development of geoscience technical capabilities of mutual interest. South Australia and Chile have unique expertise in understanding different copper mineral systems and exploration technology, and there is potential for information sharing to result in new discoveries in underexplored provinces.

Specifically, the MOU aims to:

- Encourage and maximise the economic development of the mineral sectors for Chile and South Australia.
- Share experiences with data management information systems to most effectively disseminate government and industry geoscientific information.
- Advance and promote best practice and continuous technical and scientific improvement in geoscientific activities.
- Cooperate in the preparation of geological studies, or other forms of information of mutual interest.
- Provide greater opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between South Australia and Chile in exploration, mining and geoscience.

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Geoff Knight (Chief Executive, DMITRE), Julio Poblete (Executive Director, National Geological and Mining Survey), Minister Tom Koutsantonis, His Excellency Hernán Eduardo de Solminihac Tampier, Jim Hallion (Chief Executive, Department of Premier and Cabinet) and Maria Galatsanos (Senior Project Officer, *PACE*).  
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