



**NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT
RESOURCES STRATEGY CONSULTATION
SEPTEMBER 2019**

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

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About the AusIMM

The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (the AusIMM) was formed in 1893 and is the leading organisation representing the 65,000 resources sector professionals in the Australasian region, across industry, government and academia.

Our members include professionals from traditional disciplines such as mining engineers, geoscientists and metallurgists, as well as from disciplines such as business management, finance, health and safety, social and environmental science.

With a focus on enhancing professional excellence, the AusIMM provides members with an ongoing program of professional development opportunities to ensure our members are supported throughout their careers to provide high quality professional input to industry and the community.

Submission

This submission is in response to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's Resource Strategy's consultation process.

AusIMM wishes to make a brief submission in addition to the questionnaire, considering the limiting nature of multiple choice and welcomes the opportunity to briefly do so.

AusIMM believes that the current strategy acknowledges the importance of mining to New Zealand but does not emphasize it to the right extent. New Zealand has the opportunity to utilize the resources it is privileged to have, rather than importing minerals from mining and business offshore. The latter can be more expensive and does not guarantee that New Zealand's high standards of practice in sustainability are maintained.

Further to this, AusIMM would like to establish its support in principle of the Straterra submission to this consultation process, namely across the areas of the value the minerals sector brings to New Zealand. Straterra outlines three main points that AusIMM reiterates.

1. **Mining is essential to modern societies.**
2. **Mining's contribution to the economy is significant**
3. **Mining and protecting the environment are not mutually exclusive**

The essential role that the resources sector plays in products used in every day modern life, construction and innovation, should be acknowledged and emphasized and promoted in any strategy. The contribution mining makes to regional economies and employment is notable and should not be ignored or diminished in favour of any emotional sentiment around the topic of mining in New Zealand. With the highly skilled experts working in the mining sector of New Zealand, some of the highest standards of professional practice in the world are upheld and environmental sustainability is upheld as an important element of that world class standard.

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