

## Submitter information

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) would appreciate if you would provide some information about yourself. If you choose to provide information in the “About you” section below it will be used to help MBIE understand the impact of our proposals on different occupational groups. Any information you provide will be stored securely.

### A. About you

Name:

Privacy of natural persons

Email  
address:

Privacy of natural persons

### B. Are you happy for MBIE to contact you if we have questions about your submission?

Yes

No

### C. Are you making this submission on behalf of a business or organisation?

Yes

No

If yes, please tell us the title of your company/organisation:

### D. The best way to describe your role is:

Academic/researcher

Independent expert (please specify below)

Consultant (please specify below)

Business owner (please specify below)

Tradesperson (please specify below)

Student (please specify below)

Industry group (please specify below)

Other (please specify below)

Industry participant (please specify below)

Prefer not to say

Please specify here:

E. Privacy information

The Privacy Act 2020 applies to submissions. Please check the box if you do not wish your name or other personal information to be included in any information about submissions that MBIE may publish.

MBIE may upload submissions, or a summary of submissions, received to MBIE's website at [www.mbie.govt.nz](http://www.mbie.govt.nz). If you do not want your submission or a summary of your submission to be placed on our website, please check the box and type an explanation below:

*I do not want my submission placed on MBIE's website because... [insert reasoning here]*

F. Confidential information

I would like my submission (or identifiable parts of my submission) to be kept confidential and have stated my reasons and ground under section 9 of the Official Information Act that I believe apply, for consideration by MBIE.

If you have checked this box, please tell us what parts of your submission are to be kept confidential.

# A Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040

MBIE is developing a *Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040* to enable us to take a long-term, strategic approach to how we develop our mineral resources. This does not include petroleum which already has an advanced regulatory regime.

Minerals play an essential role in New Zealand’s economic growth through high-paying jobs, Crown royalties, direct positive impact in the regions where mining takes place, and through export revenues. Minerals are also critical inputs into products that are necessary for other sectors to thrive, including the use of aggregates in construction and infrastructure.

Minerals will continue to play a major role in New Zealand’s export-led economic growth and contribute to our economic functions, but the minerals sector faces some risks and challenges. These include lack of complete understanding about our minerals ecosystem, supply risks, social license, and a regulatory system that needs to be improved to enable investments.

These challenges require a long-term strategic approach to ensure that resource development for our economic prosperity happens in a responsible manner. Developing a minerals strategy is a fundamental first step in ensuring that we have a strategic framework for resource production.

The Minerals Strategy Discussion Document seeks feedback on the context and design of the strategy. It discusses key strategic issues, challenges and opportunities facing the minerals sector in New Zealand, and how we could address them.

The strategy is built on three key pillars, **Enhancing prosperity for New Zealanders**, **Demonstrating the sector’s value**, and **Delivering minerals for a clean energy transition**, and identifies specific actions the Government could take to position the minerals sector to deliver value in an environmentally responsible manner.

Please see the Minerals Strategy Discussion Document for more information.

## Questions for the consultation

1. Are the strategic pillars of the Draft Strategy (**Enhancing prosperity for New Zealanders**, **Demonstrating the sector’s value**, and **Delivering minerals for a clean energy transition**) suitable or is there more we need to consider?

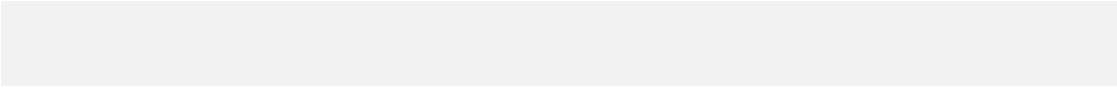
Yes, they are suitable       No, they are not suitable       Not sure/no preference

Is there anything you would like to tell us about the reason(s) for your choice? Or is there more we need to consider?

You need a pillar about risk management. The strategy mentions potential social, environmental and health impacts in passing but does not give these due weight.

Negative effects of the proposed expansions must be carefully weighed and clearly presented to stakeholders.

New minerals we’re not taking advantage of may be beneficial in a limited capacity but should still be carefully assessed against the negative effects (pollution, health impacts).



2. Are the key actions the right ones to deliver on our strategic pillars, and are they ambitious enough?

- Yes, the actions are the right ones and are ambitious enough
- No, the actions are not the right ones ~~and not ambitious enough~~
- Not sure/no preference

If **No**, what else might we need to consider?

The given answers are very leading. It's not a matter of ambition but what's rational and balanced.

Firstly the actions that focus on mineral recycling are appropriate. These should be a high focus as it is a large, untapped opportunity that could result in higher profits and less environmental, social and health damage than traditional coal mining.

The investment in recycling technology/IP could also be sold internationally for even greater profit.

Secondly the Fast-track Approvals Bill is mentioned as an action "underway" but this is essentially selling our natural resources to overseas corporations so doesn't exactly increase prosperity for NZers.

Not only that but the power this bill gives to just three members of parliament makes us vulnerable to corruption, now and in future. The Fast-track Approvals Bill is not at all needed for a productive minerals sector and may in fact actively work against the aims of safety, clean energy transition, and prosperity for NZ.

Continuing or expanding coal mining will not support a clean energy transition. This should be obvious but is also extensively supported by science both here and overseas.

Any actions leading to seabed mining will damage oceanic ecosystems.

3. Are there opportunities for our minerals sector we haven't considered?

- Yes, there are
- No, there are none
- Not sure/no preference

If **Yes**, what are the opportunities for our minerals sectors we should consider?

There should be robust frameworks for assessing any new minerals we choose to extract. The environmental impact of extracting these should be balanced against how they can contribute to a less carbon-focused global economy.

Leaning into this opportunity could make NZ a world leader in conscious mining, metal recycling, and transitioning away from coal to a more clean energy future.

4. Are there challenges for our minerals sector we haven't considered?

- Yes, there are other challenges not considered

- No, all challenges have been considered
- Not sure/no preference

Is there anything you would like to tell us about the reason(s) for your choice?

Legal challenges like land ownership, the treaty. Human health challenges not least in terms of how mines/coal dust affect respiratory health. Environmental challenges, these are complex and widespread and will need due consideration such that profits are not obliterated by ongoing environmental and health costs

5. Are there any other things we have missed that we should include, or things we should not include?

These things could be economic/financial, environmental, health and safety related, or other areas.

Some minerals will be necessary for the renewables transition, but in general we can't regressively hamstring our economy into a reliance on fossil fuels like coal.

The health risks of minerals are a risk for NZers. Antimony harms the eyes and skin, and can also cause problems with the lungs, heart and stomach.

Other industries and economies, like IT, could be invested in without the risk of NZers being exposed to dangerous elements.

We'd need to import expertise in the minerals we have no experience in, which opens us up to further safety risks and higher costs.

# Thank you

Thanks for your feedback, we really appreciate your insight. It helps us establish a long-term strategic approach to ensure that resource development for our economic prosperity happens in a responsible manner.

To help us continue to develop a Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040, we would appreciate any additional suggestions or comments you may have.

Please leave your feedback here:

More than anything else the Fast Track Approvals bill is the most damaging component mentioned in this strategy and needs to be revisited or dropped entirely.