

# Consultation submission form

## A Draft Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040 MAY 2024

### 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:

Jo Birnie

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:

Development West Coast

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

Academic/researcher

Consultant (please specify below)

Tradesperson (please specify below)

Industry group (please specify below)

Industry participant (please specify below)

Independent expert (please specify below)

Business owner (please specify below)

Student (please specify below)

Other (please specify below)

Prefer not to say

Please specify here:

Economic Development Agency

**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.

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?

The strategic pillars are comprehensive and address the key aspects essential for the development of New Zealand's mineral sector. It is necessary to ensure the scope within each pillar is reflective of the role of minerals in the wider economy, is enabling and supportive, enhancing sustainability and economic resilience.

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 actions outlined are well-targeted. However, more ambition is needed in promoting and stimulating both domestic and international investment in the sector. An enhanced investment environment will catalyse economic activity, spur innovation, and create employment opportunities nationwide.

Additionally, improving the ability to secure minerals, specifically in the exploration phase and simplifying the regional regulatory process providing more incentives for exploration.

There needs to be a stronger focus on developing skills and training programs within the sector to ensure a competent workforce capable of meeting future demands. Continuous professional development and education in mining technologies and environmental management are crucial for sustainable sector growth.

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?

One significant opportunity is integrating the minerals sector within the broader circular economy framework. This includes promoting recycling and efficient resource use to minimize waste and environmental impact. Additionally, fostering partnerships with engineering and technology firms can lead to innovative exploration and extraction methods, reducing environmental footprints.

Adopting a regional approach to exploration that supports smaller mining operations. Simplified exploration processes that adhere to stringent environmental standards will help balance economic growth with ecological preservation, and can encourage more

localised and sustainable development, providing regional economies with tailored growth opportunities.

Specific initiatives to boost skills and training, combined with an annual review of the mineral list, will ensure that the sector remains competitive and adaptable.

Changing the narrative of the minerals sector is crucial. Highlighting the positive environmental outcomes and the essential role minerals play in achieving environmental change and sustainability goals will improve public perception of the industry and opportunities.

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?

While the strategy outlines several challenges, emphasis is needed on the regulatory hurdles that impede exploration and development. Simplifying the regulatory process while ensuring environmental safeguards can attract more investments.

Although the development of a minerals list is essential, an annual review of the minerals list is necessary to maintain relevancy with market dynamics and technological advancements.

4. 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.

Enabling easier access to exploration with minimal environmental impact is critical. Strengthening the narrative of environmental and sustainability opportunities, along with improved GDP for intergenerational prosperity that the minerals sector offers New Zealand.

## 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:

The draft mineral strategy is a pivotal step towards maximising the economic and environmental benefits of New Zealand's mineral resources. The strategy demonstrates a commitment to fostering innovation, economic growth, and societal progress, sending a strong signal to investors, businesses, and entrepreneurs that New Zealand is committed to fostering a business-friendly environment conducive to growth and innovation.

Changing the public perception of the minerals sector by emphasising its positive environmental impact and essential role in achieving sustainability is critical for broader support and engagement.

By leveraging the potential of the wider circular economy, we can create a more sustainable and resilient mineral sector.