

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: Michael McLeary

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:

Globalscapes Pty Ltd

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:

Providing experienced Strategic Mine and Asset Closure and Transition Services to Industry, Government, Community Groups, Developers, Investors and other Consulting Companies

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. 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?

There is value in presenting a fourth pillar which is along the lines of “protecting environmental and social values” Presently it appears that environmental is potentially an after thought being added as the last sentence but then not carried through to measurement etc. This additional pillar will wrap a lot of other mentions of these high values within the document and present at the higher level specifically mentioning and highlighting its priority.

General comments:

- The strategic pillars are only referred to as pillars when measuring success, need to be stated much earlier in doc
- In general, a strategic document would be led by a vision with potential goals and objectives and supported by the pillars; and in recognition of the tasks to achieve, plus

recognising the key opportunities and risks of achieving the strategy. This could be presented in a graphical image to visualise how everything fits together and then go onto the detail etc

- Prosperity does not equal social value

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?

Focusing on and improving

- Education and Skills Development to ensure steady pipeline of skilled workers etc
- Investigating and seizing on Technological advancements and Digital transformation advances being considered and adapted in the global mining market
- Embedding ESG (which includes closure) criteria into all mining operations to ensure sustainable and ethical practices can be more prominently highlighted.

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?

- Collaborative International Partnerships - Forming strategic partnerships with other countries and international organisations provides an opportunity to enhance research, secure investment, and gain further market access
- Local Value Addition - Encouraging the development of downstream industries that add value to extracted minerals through local processing and manufacturing can increase economic benefits and create jobs.

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?

Some direct commentary within but to add:

- Economic and Market Volatility – Especially market volatility wrt gold etc
- Environmental Rehabilitation and Closure - **Ensuring** the long-term success of mine rehabilitation and closure plans can be challenging and securing adequate financial assurance for mine closure and post-closure activities can be difficult, especially for smaller companies

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.

Provided in previous sections is presenting the social/environmental balance more effectively to the mix.

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:

In general, the strategy has the major components within but could do with restructuring and re-presenting.

As a closure and transition consultant it is of course imperative to embed post-closure considerations into mine plans from the start to ensure environmental sustainability, regulatory compliance, cost management, community relations, risk reduction, ethical practices, and alignment with sustainable development goals.