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Review of Queensland Workers' Compensation Scheme

SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION BY
THE ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION OF EMPLOYEES

The Electrical Trades Union (the ETU) thanks the Committee for an opportunity to provide further submissions in relation to the referral by the Legislative Assembly to the Finance and Administration Committee to inquire into, and report on, the operations of Queensland's workers' compensation scheme.

The referral specifically requires that:
"the Committee consider:

- *The performance of the scheme in meeting its objectives under section 5 of the Act;*
- *How the Queensland Workers' compensation scheme compares to the scheme arrangements in other Australian jurisdictions;*
- *Workcover's current and future financial position and its impact on the Queensland economy, the State's competitiveness and employment growth;*
- *Whether the reforms implemented in 2010 have addressed the growth in common law claims and claims cost that was evidenced in the scheme from 2007-2008;*
- *Whether the current self-insurance arrangements legislated in Queensland continue to be appropriate for the contemporary working environment.*

The referral also requires that in conducting the inquiry the committee should also consider and report on implementation of the recommendations of the Structural Review of Institutional and Working Arrangements in Queensland Workers' Compensation Scheme."

However, the ETU submits that in addition to that, when considering any proposals for change to the current Workers' Compensation Scheme the Committee needs to consider the make-up of the Queensland economy. It also needs to take into account the impact of the proposed changes on workers, their families, and the broader community.

THE QUEENSLAND ECONOMY

In recent years the most significant and dramatic changes to the Queensland economy have been as a result of historically high investment in engineering construction as a result of the resources boom, in particular the growth of the LNG industry in Queensland. This investment has been so significant that in many ways it has been responsible for maintaining and increasing the levels of business investment in Queensland. Appendix 1 to this submission is the Annual Economic Report on the Queensland Economy year ended 30 June 2011.

For example in 2010/2011 new engineering construction increased by a massive 39.1% (or $4.2 Billion in real terms).[1] The vast majority of this construction and development has occurred in regional and remote Queensland, with exploration continuing in ever more remote areas. Appendix 2 to this submission provides maps of Queensland's coal – mines and advanced projects, June 2010.

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1 Annual Economic Report on the Queensland Economy year ended 30 June 2011

Even without further exploration, with the existing projects in place, the ETU is expecting that the number of workers working on these existing projects will increase significantly in the near future. For example, currently on Curtis Island (off Gladstone) there are approximately 450 electricians working on three different projects. It is anticipated that this number will increase to approximately 1600 electricians by mid-2014.

This development has not occurred without a significant impact on the Queensland workforce, individual workers and their families. In most areas where the development is occurring there is insufficient accommodation and related infrastructure to allow people to move with their families to live in the area, with the result that for these workers there has been an increased need to travel long distances to get to the company provided accommodation near their workplace. Some of the travel is by air[2] (FIFO), some by road in private vehicles (DIDO) and some by company supplied bus[3] (DIDO). For example, workers travelling to Injune are required to take an 8 hour journey by bus to take them from Brisbane to their camp accommodation near or at their worksite.

All of this travel occurs simply because of need to get to work. These people are providing the labour that allows these private investments to proceed and enables all Queenslanders and the Queensland economy to benefit.

In fact, the increase in fly in-fly out and drive in-drive out arrangements has been so significant the Federal Government's House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Regional Australia is currently conducting an Inquiry into the use of Fly In, Fly out Work Practices in Regional Australia. Submissions to that Inquiry have raised concerns about increased risk of car accident because of increased traffic on the roads and poor quality of roads, as well as workers often driving in a fatigued state because of the nature of their work inadequate facilities on site.

Journey Claims

There has been a suggestion in some submission to the Committee that journey claims should be removed from the Workers' Compensation Scheme, because the journey to and from work is not in the control of the employer. With employees who have to travel long distances to and from work, because of the nature of their work, this is clearly not true. In addition to workers working in remote areas many ETU members, such as employees of Ergon and electrical contractors are frequently required to travel long distances to work.

The ETU strongly submits that removing the journey claim from the Workers' Compensation Scheme would potentially have a direct, negative impact on these workers. This position is

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2 The submission by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport to the House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Regional Australia Inquiry into the use of Fly In, Fly out Work Practices in Regional Australia indicated an increase in one way travel of 33% from Brisbane to Gladstone between 2009/2010 to 2010/2011 and an increase of 34% for Brisbane to Emerald.

3 Attachment 1 provides examples of travel requirements for sites where members of the ETU are employed.

supported by many employer groups, such as the Electrical Contractors Association and the Master Builders Association.[4]

Currently if an employee is injured while travelling to work, they are entitled to workers' compensation. This provision recognises the nexus between the need for travel and the work that they do. The number of claims made under this provision is minimal, yet the benefit to workers and their families is significant. If employees can no longer have access to workers' compensation benefits for journey claims the impact on those workers and their families cannot be overestimated.[5]

As we have acknowledged previously the Queensland scheme, unlike most other workers' compensation schemes, continues to providescover for travel to and from work. Given the ever increasing amount of travel for employees travelling to and from work sites, the ETU believes that it is important to retain insurance coverage for journeys to and from work under the Workers' Compensation Scheme.

In addition to the direct benefits to employees the ETU believes that by maintaining coverage of journey claims it directly encourages employers to take account of the travel of employees when developing and implementing work health and safety policies and procedures such as managing fatigue in the workplace, thus providing a further indirect benefit at the workplace.

Access to Common Law Claims

The ETU has provided written and oral submissions in relation to this previously, however, given the importance of this issue we wish to reiterate our concerns.

As the law in Queensland currently stands, if an employee is injured at work through the negligence of the employer, the employee is entitled to make a common law claim against the employer.

If there is no negligence on the part of the employer, then there is no common law claim.

Simple - and in line with other areas of law.

One of our members Wendel Moloney provided written and oral submissions to the Committee. Wendel was injured at work through the negligence of his employer. As a result of this injury Wendel was unable to work in his trade, the trade that he had studied for and worked towards.

In accordance with the current practice Wendel had his injury assessed and he was assessed as having a work related impairment of 7.5%. He was offered a payout in accordance with the

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4 See the oral submissions of Mr O'Dwyer and Mr Crittall, see pg 4 of Transcript for 31 October, 2012

5 See the oral submissions of Mr Biagini of the Transport Workers' Union, see pg 3 Transcript for 31 October, 2012

provisions of the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act. He refused the offer and he successfully took a claim at common law.

Obviously the outcome of that case is confidential, because it settled. However, if an arbitrary threshold to limit access to common law was introduced, depending on where the line is drawn, people like Wendel would no longer have the right to make a claim. That is wrong. The employer was negligent and the employer is liable. In other areas of life, if someone is negligent, they bear the responsibility. Why should it be any different for workers?

If injured workers lose access to common law claims there is a flow on effect to them, but to them, to their families and to the community. It moves the cost burden of the injured worker from the Workers' Compensation Scheme to the social services system, such as Centrelink. It has social as well as financial implications.

It is important to remember that the only way a worker can access a common law claim is because the employer has been negligent in relation to their obligation to provide a safe and healthy work environment.

The difference between impairment and disability has been raised before, but in considering the issue of a threshold it cannot be mentioned too many times. This is demonstrated by the personal testimony of Wendel Moloney. It is demonstrated by case studies provided to the Committee by the ETU in our original written submissions, as well as in our oral submission to the Committee.

In relation to this I specifically refer the Committee to pages 5 & 6 of the supplementary submissions of the Queensland Law Society, which sets out the table of injuries guidelines for work related impairment assessment.

In summary:

- The ETU submits that the scheme is meeting its objectives under section 5 of the Act;
- The ETU submits that the Queensland Workers' compensation scheme compares favourably to schemes in other Australian jurisdictions;
- The ETU submits that the financial position of Queensland Workers' compensation is strong and it provides a positive impact on the Queensland economy, the State's competitiveness and employment growth;
- The ETU submits that, without detailed actuarial advice the current self-insurance arrangements legislated in Queensland should not be changed;
- The ETU opposes any change to injured workers' (members') access to common law claims.

- The ETU opposes any move to remove journey claims from the Queensland Workers' Compensation Scheme.

- The ETU recommends that Workcover introduce regular compliance checks to ensure that employers comply with their obligations under the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act.

Attachment 1

Location of project	Method of travel	Travel time required
Injune/Roma	Bus	8 hours from Brisbane*
Jackson/Mooney	Chart flights	
Bowen Basin	Fly to Mackay, drive to Bowen Basin/Moranbah	2 ½ hours' drive from Mackay (either by bus or by car)
Dalby/Chinchilla #	Drive	4 hours from Brisbane 5 hours from the Gold Coast

* Cannot fly in as the local airport cannot handle the traffic

\# These employees work 10 days on, four days off. On their last day of work they work 4 hours before driving home. Even if they are fatigued they cannot stay on site as there is insufficient accommodation provided.

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APPENDIX 1

Annual Economic Report

on the Queensland economy

year ended 30 June 2011

2010-11

Queensland Government

2010-11 Annual Economic Report on the Queensland economy – year ended June 2011

ISSN: 1323 0646

Queensland Government

Annual Economic Report

2010-11

The Queensland Economy

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Foreword

Financial year 2010-11 represented one of the most difficult for the Queensland economy in recent history. Domestically, the State was hit by heavy rainfall from September 2010, which was followed by widespread flooding at the start of 2011, and then Cyclone Yasi in February.

The international environment was also a challenging one. Political turmoil in North Africa and the Middle-East from late 2010 pushed up world oil prices, adding to domestic inflationary pressures from the floods. Sovereign debt concerns intensified in Europe and the US, which led to increased volatility in financial markets throughout the world.

Meanwhile, tragedy struck Japan, traditionally Queensland's largest trading partner and a key element in the global supply chain, with the earthquake and tsunami taking the lives of thousands of people and severely damaging Japan's infrastructure and economy.

Reflecting these adverse events, Queensland's economy grew a marginal 0.2% in 2010-11.

Queensland's agricultural production and resource exports were affected the most by the natural disasters, with crops damaged or destroyed and coal production and transportation processes severely disrupted. A high Australian dollar also weighed on manufacturing and service exports.

However, growth in domestic demand strengthened in the year. A significant increase in business investment was driven by a ramp up in major resource projects, with a growing pipeline of mining developments set to support State economic growth in coming years.

Public final demand, supported by spending on disaster-related reconstruction, remained at a historically high level.

Meanwhile, household consumption grew modestly in the year. However, dwelling investment contracted, reflecting subdued population growth and higher interest rates, while poor weather conditions also hampered construction activity.

Despite a challenging year for key sectors, Queensland's employment growth strengthened to 2.3% in 2010-11 on the back of stronger business investment and increased public spending in key service delivery areas. As a result, the year-average unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage point to 5.5% – its first financial year decline in two years.

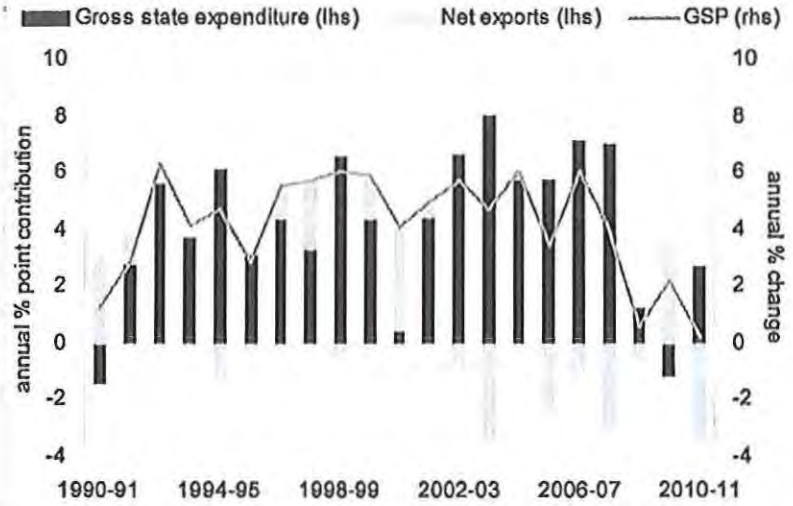
The *Annual Economic Report* is a part of the State Government's performance accountability framework and is one of many economic resources produced by Queensland Treasury. This publication and other information on Queensland can be viewed at www.treasury.qld.gov.au.

ANDREW FRASER MP
DEPUTY PREMIER
TREASURER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

1 Overview

Queensland's gross state product (GSP) grew a marginal 0.2% in 2010-11, the third consecutive year of below average growth since the global financial crisis (GFC). However, this modest result largely reflected the impacts of widespread flooding and Cyclone Yasi during the summer on agricultural production and commodity exports, particularly coal. Abstracting from the trade sector, domestic demand, as measured by gross state expenditure, recovered from a fall of 1.1% in 2009-10 to grow 2.8% in 2010-11 (see Figure 1a).

Figure 1a
Selected components of economic growth, Queensland



Source: *Queensland State Accounts.*

The direct impact of the natural disasters, combined with protracted coalmine de-watering, led to exports falling 7.8% in 2010-11 – the key detractor from GSP growth during the year. The natural disasters disrupted mine production, rail transport and port operations, resulting in coal export volumes falling by around 20 million tonnes from 2009-10 to 161.9 million tonnes in 2010-11. Agricultural production and exports were also adversely affected, as wet weather destroyed sugar and other crop harvests and lowered yields, while Cyclone Yasi severely lowered horticultural production. This was followed in March 2011 by the devastating earthquakes and tsunami in Japan, traditionally Queensland's largest trading partner. Meanwhile, a 12.1% year-average appreciation of the A$ against the US$ also weighed on other export sectors, such as manufacturing and tourism.

However, business investment drove a recovery in gross state expenditure in 2010-11, with investment rebounding 19.0%, following a large fall of 18.6% in 2009-10. This rise was driven by a 25.5% increase in non-dwelling construction, which reached a record $20.9 billion in real terms as major resource projects boosted engineering construction. Meanwhile, the high A$, strong prospects for resource demand and some replacement of capital lost during the natural disasters saw machinery and equipment investment recover 12.0% in 2010-11. Supported by reconstruction activity, public final demand remained at a historically high level.

Household consumption rose 2.4% in 2010-11, an improvement on the two prior years when per-capita consumption declined, though still below the long-run average rate of growth of around 4.4%. Consumption was constrained by ongoing consumer caution in an environment

of higher interest rates and subdued wealth gains, while household income growth was affected by slower real wages growth. Consumption growth was also suppressed by the lagged impact of the weak dwelling sector over the past year. However, disaster relief payments and insurance payouts somewhat offset these factors, supporting the replacement of lost or damaged household items.

In contrast, dwelling investment fell 12.9% in 2010-11, the fourth straight yearly fall, driven by a 17.9% decline in new dwelling construction and a 6.8% fall in alterations and additions activity. Subdued dwelling investment reflected weaker underlying drivers of demand, such as slower population growth, higher mortgage rates and the unwinding of the *First Home Owners Boost*, while falling house prices and tight credit conditions limited investor activity. On the supply side, adverse weather conditions also hindered construction.

Despite a subdued household sector, year-average jobs growth strengthened from 0.9% in 2009-10 to 2.3% in 2010-11, driven by a surge in business investment and public sector support for the economy. With jobs growth outpacing labour force growth, the year-average unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage point, to 5.5%, in 2010-11. Reflecting the strength in the resources sector, private sector jobs growth was strongest in mining, while the natural disasters saw agriculture, forestry and fishing employment fall sharply.

Brisbane recorded inflation of 3.3% in 2010-11, stronger than the 2.7% recorded in 2009-10, with an acceleration in growth of financial and insurance services and flood-affected food prices during the year.

Table 1a
Components of economic growth[1,2]

	Queensland				Australia			
	Annual change (%)		Contribution[3] (percentage points)		Annual change (%)		Contribution[3] (percentage points)	
	2009-10	2010-11	2009-10	2010-11	2009-10	2010-11	2009-10	2010-11
Household consumption	1.4	2.4	0.7	1.2	2.1	3.3	1.1	1.8
Private investment[4]	-11.2	5.7	-2.9	1.3	-2.3	4.0	-0.5	0.9
Dwelling investment	-4.1	-12.9	-0.3	-0.9	2.1	2.6	0.1	0.1
Business investment[4]	-18.6	19.0	-2.9	2.4	-6.4	6.7	-0.9	0.8
Non-dwelling construction[4]	-14.8	25.5	-1.1	1.7	-7.6	10.8	-0.5	0.7
Machinery and equipment[4]	-22.3	12.0	-1.8	0.7	-5.3	2.7	-0.4	0.2
Private final demand[4]	-2.9	3.4	-2.2	2.5	0.8	3.5	0.6	2.7
Public final demand[4]	3.3	0.1	0.8	0.0	6.7	4.5	1.5	1.1
Change in inventories	na	na	0.3	0.2	na	na	0.3	0.2
Gross state/national expenditure[5]	-1.1	2.8	-1.1	2.7	2.4	4.0	2.4	3.9
Net exports	na	na	3.6	-2.8	na	na	0.1	-2.4
Exports of goods and services	6.7	-7.8	2.5	-3.0	5.3	0.2	1.2	0.0
Imports of goods and services	-2.8	-0.7	1.1	0.2	5.1	10.7	-1.1	-2.4
Gross state/domestic product	2.2	0.2	2.2	0.2	2.3	1.8	2.3	1.8

Notes:
1. Outcomes for overall economic growth and its components represent preliminary estimates based on the June quarter 2011 *Queensland State Accounts*. Subsequent releases of the *Queensland State Accounts* may contain revisions to 2010-11 outcomes. na – Indicates not applicable.
2. Chain volume measure (cvm), 2008-09 reference year.
3. Sum of component contributions to growth may not add to totals due to rounding.
4. For Queensland, adjusted for private sector net purchases of second-hand public sector assets.
5. Excludes statistical discrepancy.

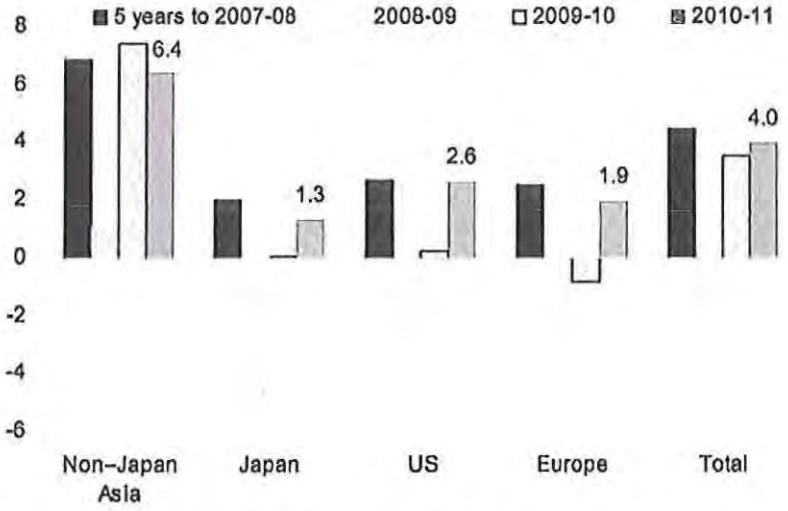
Sources: *Queensland State Accounts* and ABS 5206.0.

2 External environment

International conditions

Despite various headwinds, Queensland's major trading partner GDP growth strengthened slightly in 2010-11, after activity contracted in 2008-09 due to the GFC. Queensland's major trading partner GDP expanded 4.0% in 2010-11, after growth of 3.5% in the previous year (see Figure 2a). Growth was driven largely by a 6.4% increase in economic activity in non-Japan Asia, led by ongoing industrialisation and urbanisation in China and India. In contrast, growth in many advanced economies was constrained by escalating debt concerns, unwinding of fiscal stimulus and an excess capacity of capital and labour following the recent economic recession. Another headwind for economic activity in 2010-11 was the Great East Japan Earthquake in March, which stalled economic growth in Japan.

Figure 2a
Economic performance of Queensland's major trading partners
(annual % change)



Sources: ABS 5368.0, Datastream and Queensland Treasury.

Growth in non-Japan Asia was again driven by China, which surpassed Japan as the world's second largest economy in US$ terms in 2010, and India. However, like many other countries across non-Japan Asia, China faced elevated inflation during 2010-11, which prompted monetary tightening. This, along with allowing the currency to appreciate against the US$, caused some slowing in economic growth. Meanwhile, in other industrialised countries in non-Japan Asia, particularly South Korea and Taiwan, growth in 2010-11 slowed. This partly represented a normalisation from the strong growth 2009-10 that was artificially inflated by a catch-up in activity following the GFC.

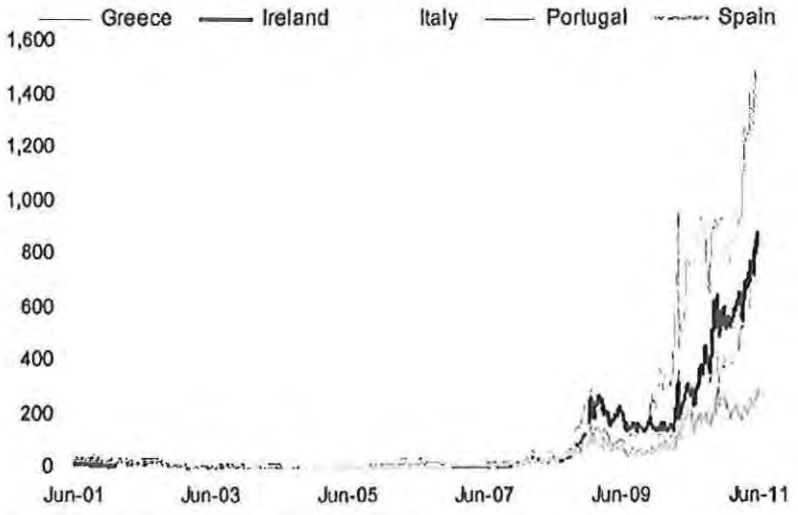
In Japan, economic activity grew 1.3% in 2010-11, despite a contraction in the second half of the year due to the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and the ensuing tsunami. Japan's Government estimated the damage to the capital stock at around 16.9 trillion Yen (around A$206 billion at 2010-11 exchange rates). Industrial production in Japan's manufacturing sector contracted 15.5% in March, and was 5.4% below its pre-disaster recent peak by June 2011. This contributed toward a sharp contraction in exports late in the year. Further, integrated supply chain management magnified the loss to production capacity in Japan and other countries, with damaged factories removing vital links in the production process for various manufactured products around the world. Reflecting this, the number of cars manufactured globally was estimated to fall by up to 30% in the following two months.

In Europe, economic activity rose 1.9% in 2010-11, following an aggregate 4.0% contraction over the preceding two years. Activity remained mixed across the region in the year. Improved global economic growth and a lower Euro supported an export led recovery in the core economies of Germany and France, but sovereign debt concerns and fiscal consolidation continued to undermine growth in the periphery. Reflecting increased concerns toward government fiscal positions, the yield spread between Portuguese, Greek and Irish benchmark longer dated government bonds and those of Germany reached multi-decade highs (see Figure 2b), despite successful negotiations of assistance packages for all three countries.

Figure 2b

10-year bond yield spreads in selected European countries

(10-year yield less equivalent German Bund yield, basis points)



Sources: Datastream and Queensland Treasury.

While the US economy grew 2.6% in 2010-11, activity remained below its pre-financial crisis level by the end of the year. By June 2011, private sector employment had recovered only 2.2 million of the 8.8 million private sector jobs that were shed since early 2008. Structural issues weighed on growth prospects for some sectors of the US economy, including a large housing oversupply, which continued to undermine dwelling investment, while high vacancy rates, tight credit conditions and low prices hindered non-housing construction. Moreover, real public final demand contracted in 2010-11, seeing public sector employment fall by 670,000 persons, as all levels of government attempted to improve their fiscal positions.

Monetary settings remained exceptionally loose across major advanced economies, contributing toward longer dated yields falling to multi-decade lows in Germany and the UK. In the US, interest rates of maturities between six months and five years all touched multi-decade lows during 2010-11, reflecting expectations that there would not be any monetary tightening for an extended period of time. A second round of quantitative easing by the US Federal Reserve also acted to keep longer dated interest rates low in the year. This was in contrast to Asia and Australia in particular, where stronger growth prospects contributed to tighter monetary settings. With concerns that inflation could rise in the medium-term, the RBA increased the official cash rate 25 basis points, to 4.75%, in November 2010, where it remained for the rest of 2010-11.

Owing largely to these widening interest rate differentials, differences in monetary policy settings and higher global commodity prices, the A$ reached post-float highs during 2010-11 against the US$ (US$1.09) and Euro (€0.77), r eached a 26 year high against the British Pound (£0.67) and a 2½ year high against the Japanese Yen (¥89.6).

Australian economy

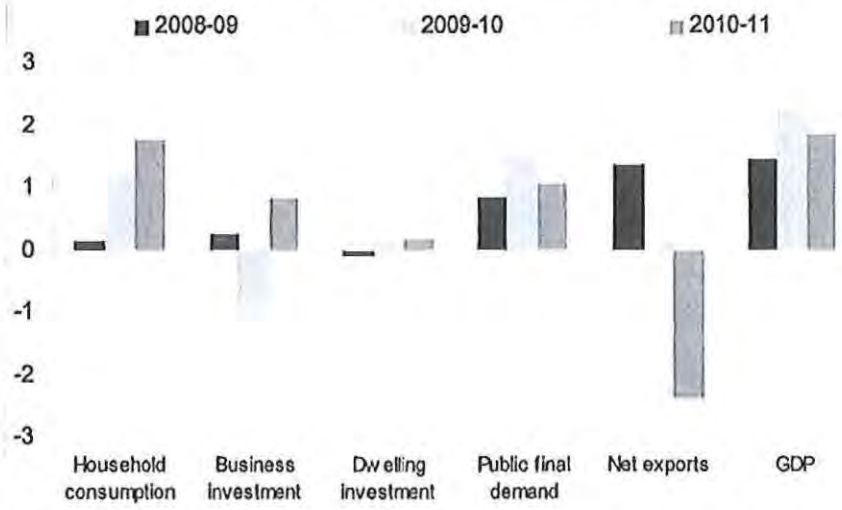
The Australian economy grew 1.8% in 2010-11, easing slightly from 2.3% growth in 2009-10. This was the third successive year of below average growth following the escalation of the GFC in late 2008. Non-farm output increased 1.5% in 2010-11, while farm output surged 22.3%, reflecting significantly improved seasonal conditions across much of the nation. While most sectors of the economy grew solidly, a hit to commodity exports from natural disasters, along with strong imports growth, saw the trade sector detract from growth for the first time in three years (see Figure 2c).

Reflecting substantial price rises for the nation's key mineral and rural export commodities, Australia's terms of trade rose 20.7% in 2010-11, to reach their highest levels in 140 years. The higher terms of trade supported near-average household consumption growth of 3.3%, despite a further rise in the household saving ratio to a 24-year high of 10.3%. Dwelling investment rose 2.6% in 2010-11, with 4.7% growth in new dwelling construction partly offset by a 0.3% fall in renovation activity.

Business investment rose 6.7% in 2010-11, with a sustained strong outlook for mineral export prices, as well as a ramp-up in activity related to major liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects, driving a 22.2% rise in engineering construction. This growth was somewhat offset by non-dwelling construction (shops, offices, etc), which fell 4.6%, the third consecutive yearly fall, with this sector continuing to be affected by tight credit conditions and elevated vacancy rates in parts of the nation. Supported by a strong A$, machinery and equipment investment rose 2.7% in 2010-11, compared with modest falls in the previous two years.

However, widespread flooding and cyclone activity, on both the east and west coasts, substantially impacted exports of bulk commodities, particularly in March quarter 2011. Reflecting this, goods and services exports only rose a marginal 0.2% in 2010-11, the weakest growth in eight years. Meanwhile, imports rose 10.7%, in line with higher household consumption and solid business investment growth, with LNG investment particularly import-intensive. The strong A$ also encouraged overseas travel by Australians. As a result, the trade sector detracted 2.4 percentage points from economic growth in 2010-11, the largest detraction since 1973-74.

Figure 2c
Contributions to national economic growth
(percentage point contribution)



Source: ABS 5206.0.

3 Components of Queensland's domestic economy

Household final consumption

Household consumption rose 2.4% in 2010-11, a modest improvement from the two previous years, when growth was below population growth. These outcomes in part reflect households repairing their balance sheets following a period of very strong consumption growth earlier in the decade, driven by a prolonged period of lower interest rates, strong asset price growth and financial product innovation which provided greater access to household wealth for consumption (see Figure 3a).

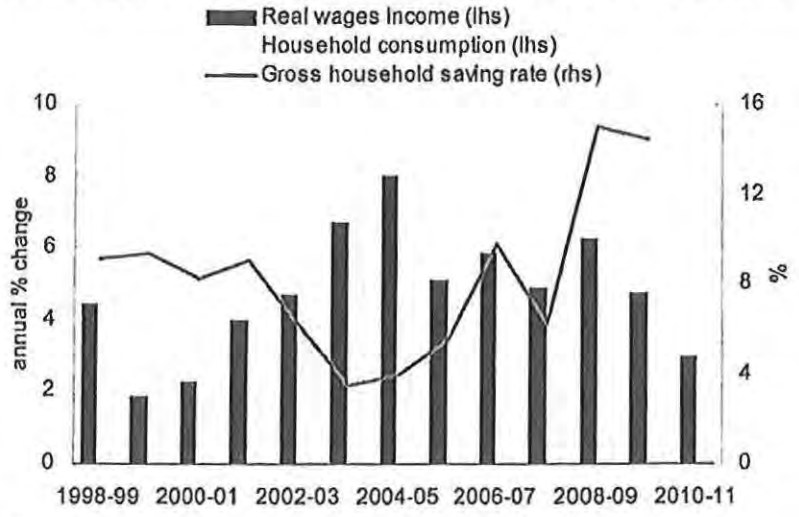
In 2010-11, national measures of household saving remained elevated, with consumers still cautious as flat house prices and modest equity market gains subdued growth in household wealth. Further, the build-up of housing debt over the earlier boom, combined with weak house price expectations, higher interest rates and tighter lending standards, lowered households' willingness and ability to use housing wealth for consumption. Growth in disposable incomes slowed in 2010-11, reflecting higher interest rates and some softening in real wages growth. In addition, household spending growth has also been hindered in recent years by the lagged impact of weakness in the dwelling sector.

Reflecting these trends, spending on non-discretionary goods and services such as transport services (up 16.4%), food (up 4.9%), rent and other dwelling services (up 3.1%), insurance and other financial insurance (up 3.1%) and health (up 2.9%) drove consumption growth in 2010-11. Conversely, spending on some discretionary items was weak, with vehicle purchases falling 5.3%, although influenced by disaster-related supply disruptions from manufacturers in Japan later in the year.

While natural disasters also affected household incomes early in 2011, this was offset somewhat by substantial State and Federal support payments, as well as insurance payouts. Consequently, following two years of weakness, spending on furnishings and household equipment recovered slightly to grow by 2.0% in 2010-11, as households replaced lost or damaged goods.

Figure 3a

Household consumption[1], real wages income and saving, Queensland



Note:
1. cvm, 2008-09 reference year.
Sources: ABS 5220.0, 6202.0, 6302.0, 6401.0 and Queensland Treasury.

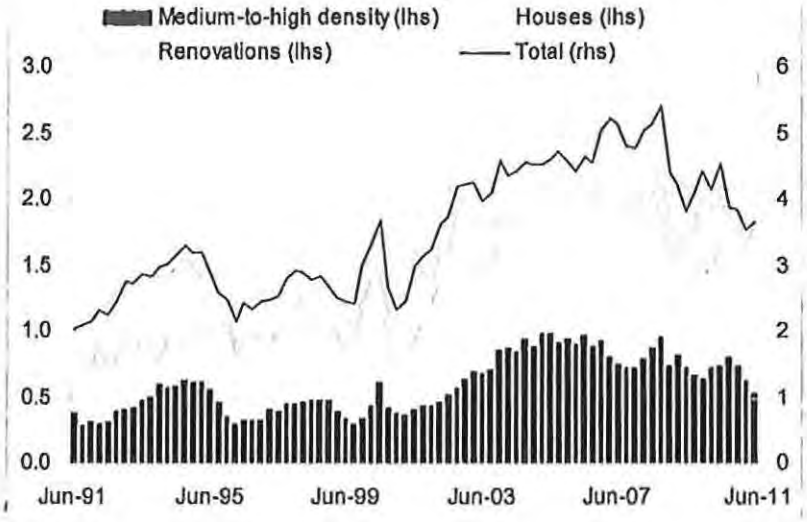
Dwelling Investment

Dwelling investment in Queensland fell for the fourth consecutive year, declining 12.9% in 2010-11, driven by declines in both new dwelling construction (down 17.9%) and renovation activity (down 6.8%). However, dwelling investment showed some signs of stabilising late in the financial year, rising in the June quarter following three consecutive seasonally adjusted quarterly declines (see Figure 3b).

A confluence of factors has driven lower dwelling investment in recent years. Underlying demand has been reduced by a slowing in population growth from almost 120,000 persons in 2008-09 to an estimate of less than 80,000 in 2010-11. Low housing affordability, driven by a rapid increase in house prices over the previous boom, and exacerbated by a general lowering in lenders' maximum loan-to-value ratios since the GFC, has also prompted a rise in the average household size. Further, year-average standard variable mortgage rates rose more than one percentage point in 2010-11, which, together with an expiration of the *First Home Owners Boost* from 2010, impacted housing demand. First home buyer housing finance approvals fell by over one-third in 2010-11, to be at their lowest level since records began in 1991-92. Meanwhile, housing finance approvals for non-first home buyers fell 16.3% in 2010-11, to a level unseen since 2000-01. Above average rainfall for much of 2010-11 also disrupted construction and renovation activity.

Expectations of limited short-term capital gains also deterred investor participation in the Queensland housing market. Some regional housing markets such as that in the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Far North, have also suffered from lower tourism activity, a high A$ and tight credit conditions for developers. In 2010-11, medium-to-high density dwelling approvals in the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast regions were only around 40% and 70% of their 2007-08 levels prior to the financial crisis.

Figure 3b
Dwelling investment by component, Queensland[1]
($ billion)



Note:
1. Quarterly, seasonally adjusted, cvm, 2008-09 reference year.
Sources: *Queensland State Accounts* and ABS 8752.0.

Business Investment

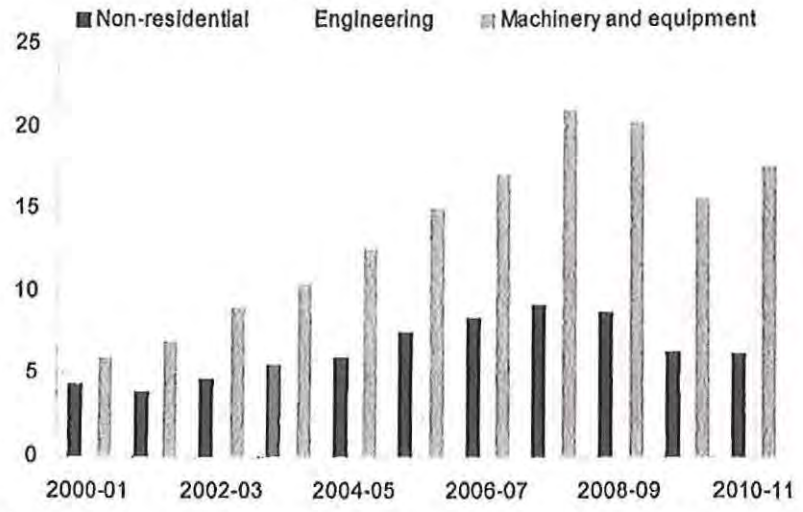
Earlier uncertainty over the economic outlook following the global economic downturn, as well as tight credit conditions and subdued domestic demand, saw business investment fall 18.6% in 2009-10. However, much of this fall was recovered in 2010-11, with a strong A$ and a booming resources sector seeing business investment rebound 19.0%, to $38.6 billion in real terms. The contribution from business investment, at 2.4 percentage points, was the largest single contributor to GSP growth in 2010-11.

Non-dwelling construction (which consists of non-residential building and engineering construction) rose 25.5% in 2010-11. The considerable turnaround was driven by new engineering construction, which surged 39.1% (or $4.2 billion in real terms) to a new historic high of $15.0 billion (see Figure 3c). This result was largely driven by higher resources sector investment. In particular, construction activity in Queensland's burgeoning LNG industry accelerated, with two projects valued at more than $30 billon commencing construction during the year, while high prices and anticipated ongoing strong demand from emerging Asia supported other mining and related infrastructure investment.

In contrast, non-residential building construction largely stabilised at a lower level in 2010-11, falling a marginal 0.7%. This sector continued to be affected by weak retail conditions, tight credit and relatively high office vacancy rates, particularly in key tourism centres such as the Gold Coast. The passing of the *Building the Education Revolution* stimulus also saw a wind-back in private education facility construction.

Partly recovering the sharp fall recorded in 2009-10, machinery and equipment investment rose 12.0% in 2010-11, with firms taking advantage of the strong A$ to purchase imported equipment and replace capital lost during the disasters. The commencement of a number of major resource projects also supported related capital goods investment in the transport and construction sectors.

Figure 3c
Business investment by component, Queensland
($billion, cvm, 2008-09 reference year)



Note:
1. Machinery and equipment is adjusted for asset sales.
Sources: *Queensland State Accounts* and ABS 5206.0.

Public final demand

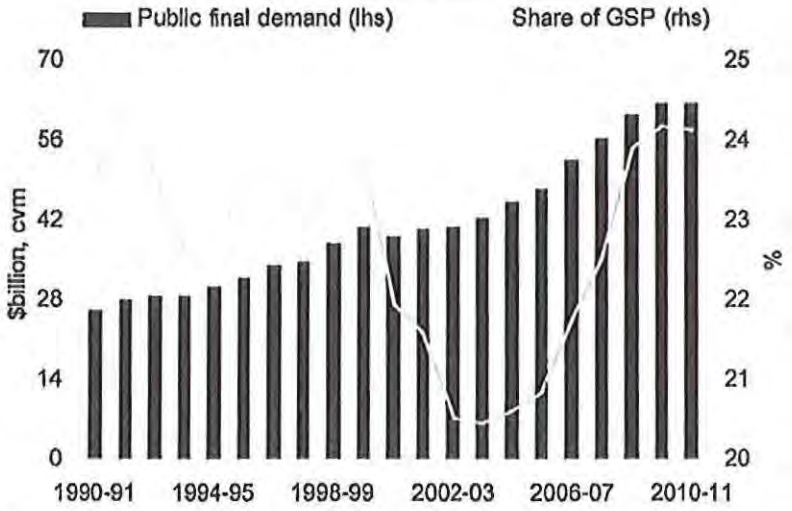
Public final demand remained at historically high levels in 2010-11, growing a marginal 0.1%, following very strong growth over the past decade (see Figure 3d). Public final demand as a share of GSP has generally increased in recent years, with the public sector providing principal support to the economy following the weakening in private demand during the GFC.

Public final demand includes investment spending by the general government sectors and public trading enterprises, as well as government consumption expenditure, the latter being largely driven by wages for government employees.

State and local general government consumption expenditure in Queensland rose 2.9% in real terms in 2010-11, in line with increased spending in key service areas such as health. However, reflecting fiscal consolidation, this rate of growth was below the average of 4.7% per annum for the previous five years.

State and local government investment spending fell 11.9% in 2010-11. Public investment spending was boosted by repair works and rebuilding of infrastructure damaged from floods and Cyclone Yasi, driven by spending funded by the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA). However, this was offset by some unwinding in the State's own capital program, excluding capital grants, with the sale of public assets (such as QR National) resulting in some expenditure now being classified as private rather than public investment, as had traditionally been the case.

Figure 3d
Public final demand, Queensland[1]



Source: *Queensland State Accounts.*

4 Trade sector

Net exports

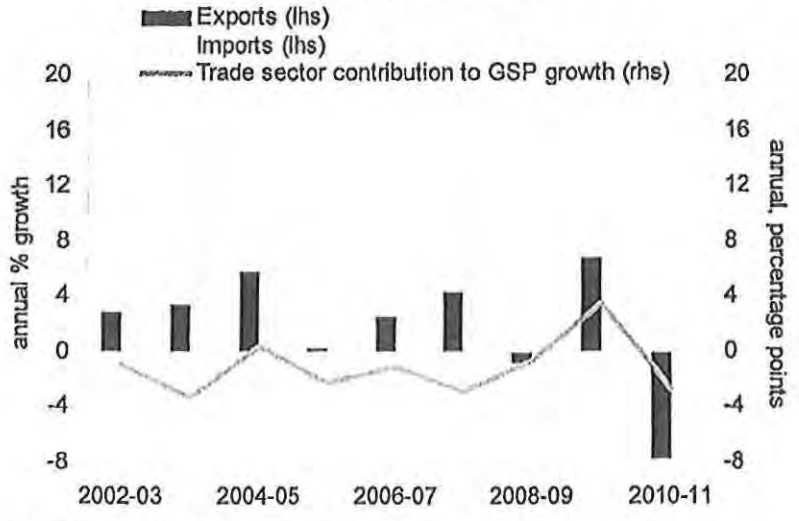
Natural disasters, combined with the high A$, saw total exports fall 7.8% in 2010-11. Although total imports also recorded a slight decline in the year, net exports still detracted 2.8 percentage points from overall economic growth in 2010-11.

A significant fall in coal export volumes due to adverse weather conditions drove a 7.2% decline in overseas goods exports in 2010-11. Meanwhile, goods exports to other states also fell in the year despite some recovery in domestic economic activity nationally.

Already suppressed by the high A$ and worsening economic conditions in the US and Europe, tourism exports were further weighed down by the natural disasters, resulting in overseas tourism exports falling 3.3%, while interstate tourism exports remained at the same level as 2009-10 in 2010-11. Measured in terms of the number of tourist nights, tourist arrivals from North America and Europe fell 8.4% in 2010-11 while arrivals from New Zealand and Japan remained relatively unchanged. Nevertheless, strong growth in arrivals from China, Korea and Taiwan cushioned the extent of the overall decline in overseas tourism exports in the year. Despite the wet weather conditions and Cyclone Yasi causing a 10.8% decline in tourist nights from interstate in the Northern and Tropical North regions, the total number of interstate tourist nights plus day trips in Queensland rose 1.6% in 2010-11, thanks to strong growth in visitor nights and day trips to the Brisbane region.

While overseas goods imports rose 6.7% in 2010-11, its contribution to overall import growth was more than offset by an 11.4% decline in interstate goods imports, according to the *Queensland State Accounts*. Meanwhile, Queenslanders' growing interest in holidaying overseas saw overseas tourism imports rise 15.9%, while interstate tourism imports declined 10.7% in 2010-11.

Figure 4a
Queensland's trade sector



Source: *Queensland State Accounts.*

Overseas merchandise exports

After falling 23.5% in 2009-10, the nominal value of Queensland's overseas merchandise exports rose 14.0% in 2010-11. This was despite a fall in export volumes after severe flooding and Cyclone Yasi as well as a 12.1% appreciation of the A$ against the US$ (from US$0.88 in 2009-10 to US$0.99 in 2010-11). The higher A$ both lowered returns on US$ denominated exports and made A$ priced exports less competitive – an impediment for Queensland's manufacturing and agriculture industries in particular.

With a long-term downward trend in the proportion of Queensland's merchandise exports destined for Atlantic basin advanced economies, Asia has been Queensland's key merchandise export region, accounting for around two-thirds of the value of merchandise exports in recent years (see Table 4a).

Table 4a
Queensland's key merchandise export destinations
(% of total nominal merchandise exports)

	Five years to 1992-93	Five years to 2002-03	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Japan	36.6	27.4	29.7	22.6	22.7
China	1.5	4.0	9.3	16.0	13.1
India	2.9	5.0	11.7	12.1	13.6
South Korea	6.1	9.7	11.3	10.9	11.9
Other Asia	11.6	14.8	11.1	13.2	12.4
Advanced economies, excluding Asia	29.4	26.8	16.6	15.2	16.7
Other countries	11.7	12.3	10.4	10.0	9.5

Source: ABS unpublished trade data.

The nominal value of Queensland's crude minerals exports rose 19.2% in 2010-11, to total $28.1 billion, driven mainly by an 18.1% increase in coal export values (see Table 4b). Higher world coal prices offset the impact of the A$ appreciation, as well as declining coal export volumes, which are estimated to have fallen from 182.5 million tonnes in 2009-10 to 161.9 million tonnes in 2010-11.

This fall in coal export volumes reflected heavy rains that began to impact production, rail transportation and port activity from late 2010, and culminated with widespread flooding that severely impacted exports in the first quarter of 2011. By the end of 2010-11, some mines were reporting that production was still water affected, though the rail network had returned to normal operations. By country, China imported less coal from Queensland in 2010-11, reflecting increased domestic production and rising imports from Mongolia and Indonesia. However, coal exports to India continued to grow.

With an improvement in global conditions and industrial production, as well as disrupted domestic supply, metallurgical and thermal coal contract prices rose significantly in 2010-11. Taking into account the A$ appreciation, prices received by exporters for hard coking and semi-soft/PCI coking coal increased by roughly one-third and two-fifths respectively for 2010-11, while prices received for thermal coal rose by around 15%.

The value of processed minerals and metals exports increased 14.7%, driven by rising world prices for aluminium (up 18.1% in year-average terms), copper (up 29.5%), nickel (up 23.6%), lead (up 14.2%) and zinc (up 8.2%). Bauxite, zinc and nickel export volumes also rose in the year, reflecting capacity expansions and a return towards normal production following financial crisis induced lows.

In 2010-11, the nominal value of Queensland's rural exports rose 15.2%, to total $6.2 billion. This rise was driven by a 13.3% increase in the value of meat exports, which partially recovered the fall recorded in 2009-10, though remained below 2008-09 levels. Meat export

volumes in 2010-11 were buoyed by both demand and supply factors. Improved global economic growth supported beef demand and prices, while improved seasonal conditions over the past few years and stronger prices encouraged producers to increase cattle turnoff.

The other large contributor to rural exports was a 53.2% rise in textile fibres, predominantly driven by strong cotton exports following a good harvest. Cotton production benefitted from improved irrigation levels, while plantation areas increased by almost threefold as high world lint prices further encouraged cotton production. However, rural production was impacted by the high rainfall and Cyclone Yasi in early 2011, with sugar, cotton, sorghum, bananas and avocado crops all affected. In particular, an extensive area of sugar cane was not harvested in 2009-10.

Despite the A$ appreciation, the value of other manufactured exports increased 3.1% in 2010-11, though was 15.8% below its 2008-09 level.

Table 4b
Overseas exports of Queensland merchandise goods
(nominal prices)

Export categories [1]	2009-10	2010-11	Annual change	
	$m	$m	$m	%
Rural [2]				
Meat	2,850.0	3,228.7	378.7	13.3
Textile fibres	478.7	733.2	254.5	53.2
Cereals and cereal preparations	447.0	481.0	34.0	7.6
Vegetables and fruit	355.2	338.6	-16.6	-4.7
Feeding stuff for animals	182.5	217.9	35.3	19.4
Other rural	1,085.0	1,219.8	134.8	12.4
Total	**5,398.3**	**6,219.1**	**820.8**	**15.2**
Crude minerals				
Coal [3]	20,529.8	24,246.9	3,717.3	18.1
Other crude minerals	3,051.1	3,861.5	810.4	26.6
Total	**23,580.7**	**28,108.4**	**4,527.7**	**19.2**
Manufactures				
Processed minerals and metals				
Non-ferrous metals	3,290.5	3,817.2	526.7	16.0
Other processed minerals and metals	264.5	258.9	-5.6	-2.1
Total	**3,555.0**	**4,076.1**	**521.1**	**14.7**
Other manufactures				
Machinery and non-transport equipment	1,093.1	1,093.6	0.5	0.0
Chemicals, fertilisers (excl. crude), plastics, etc.	572.0	618.2	46.2	8.1
Transport equipment	248.7	277.3	28.6	11.5
Leather, rubber, furniture, clothing, etc.	279.8	251.9	-27.9	-10.0
Miscellaneous manufactures and beverages	346.6	376.9	30.3	8.7
Total	**2,540.2**	**2,618.0**	**77.8**	**3.1**
Total manufactures [4]	**6,095.2**	**6,694.1**	**598.9**	**9.8**
Confidential and special [3]	**8,191.4**	**8,307.4**	**116.1**	**1.4**
Total overseas exports of goods [5]	**43,265.6**	**49,329.1**	**6,063.5**	**14.0**

Notes:
1. Based on the Standard International Trade Classification.
2. Due to ABS reclassification, raw cane sugar exports are included in the 'confidential items' export category rather than the 'Rural' export category.
3. Since February 2002 a proportion of coal exports (particularly pulverised coal injection (PCI) exports) has been classified as confidential by the ABS. Accordingly, these exports are included in the 'confidential items' export category, along with sugar and some processed metal exports.
4. Sum of processed minerals and metals and other manufactures.
5. The sum of individual categories may not equal total due to rounding.

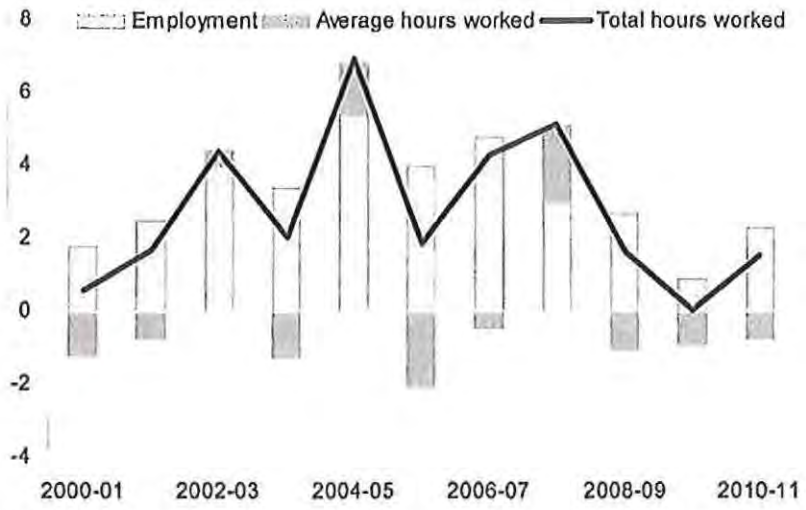
Source: ABS unpublished trade data.

5 Labour market

Employment

After slowing to a well below average 0.9% in 2009-10, year-average employment growth in Queensland strengthened to 2.3% in 2010-11, representing an increase of 53,000 persons. However, with average hours worked per week falling for the third consecutive financial year, growth in total hours worked was more modest at 1.6% in 2010-11 (see Figure 5a). While declines in average hours worked per week in the last two years partly reflected employers retaining employees but reducing their hours during the GFC, the fall in the average work week in 2010-11 largely reflected a temporary reduction in hours worked due to the impact of the floods in the March quarter.

Figure 5a
Employment and hours worked, Queensland
(annual % change)



Source: ABS 6202.0.

Reflecting ongoing strength in the resources sector, mining employment – while accounting for less than 3% of total employment – recorded the largest rise of any private industry during the year (see Table 5a). Mining employment rose 28.5%, or 12,300 persons, in 2010-11, with coal mining employment alone increasing 6,900 persons. Employment in the retail and construction industries, the two largest private sector employers, recovered modestly in 2010-11. However, agriculture, forestry and fishing employment fell sharply in 2010-11, down 11,600 persons, likely reflecting the impact of flooding and Cyclone Yasi.

Consistent with below average growth in private sector demand, jobs growth was supported by the public sector in 2010-11. Employment in the public administration and safety, education and training and health care and social assistance sectors rose a combined 33,500 persons, representing around two-thirds of the total rise in employment in the year. Within these sectors, employment growth was strongest in the medical and other health care services and tertiary education categories.

Jobs growth varied considerably between different age cohorts in 2010-11. Persons aged 25 to 34 years experienced the largest rise in employment, driven by higher employment in occupations such as professionals and community and personal service workers. Meanwhile, young people (aged 15 to 24 years) recorded a sharp increase in sales workers employment in 2010-11.

In comparison, jobs growth for persons aged between 35 and 54 was modest, with growth in occupations such as professionals, community and personal service workers and machinery operators and drivers offsetting lower employment in the manager, clerical and administrative and labourer occupations. Employment of persons 65 years and over grew strongly in 2010-11, with growth broad based across most occupations.

Table 5a
Employment by industry, Queensland

Industry/Sector	2010-11		Annual change ('000 persons)		Annual growth (%)	
	'000 persons	% of total	2010-11	10 year average	2010-11	10 year average[1]
Primary and secondary	**320.9**	**13.9**	**-0.2**	**3.3**	**-0.1**	**1.1**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	77.9	3.4	-11.6	-1.9	-12.9	-2.1
Mining	55.5	2.4	12.3	3.8	28.5	12.1
Manufacturing	187.5	8.1	-0.9	1.3	-0.5	0.7
Services	**1,992.9**	**86.1**	**48.7**	**60.8**	**2.5**	**3.7**
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	33.9	1.5	5.4	2.1	18.8	10.0
Construction	236.8	10.2	1.1	10.1	0.5	5.7
Wholesale trade	75.3	3.3	-7.1	0.4	-8.6	0.6
Retail trade	263.1	11.4	8.0	6.1	3.1	2.7
Accommodation and food services	169.9	7.3	7.5	3.7	4.6	2.5
Transport, postal and warehousing	131.7	5.7	-1.0	4.3	-0.7	4.0
Information media and telecoms	34.0	1.5	4.6	0.5	15.7	1.5
Financial and insurance services	51.1	2.2	-6.6	0.8	-11.5	1.7
Rental, hiring and real estate services	55.7	2.4	4.9	2.3	9.6	5.3
Professional, scientific/technical services	152.9	6.6	1.9	5.6	1.3	4.6
Administrative and support services	82.7	3.6	4.3	2.3	5.6	3.3
Public administration and safety	144.3	6.2	6.8	5.8	4.9	5.2
Education and training	172.1	7.4	11.0	4.9	6.8	3.4
Health care and social assistance	262.7	11.4	15.8	10.0	6.4	4.9
Arts and recreation services	38.5	1.7	0.5	1.0	1.4	3.1
Other services	88.2	3.8	-8.4	1.0	-8.7	1.2
All Industries [2,3]	**2,313.8**	**100.0**	**48.5**	**64.1**	**2.1**	**3.3**

Notes:
1. Compound growth rate.
2. Industry estimates of employment are only available on the mid-month of each quarter, and therefore do not match aggregate estimates of employed persons derived from monthly data.
3. The sum of individual industries may not add to total due to rounding.

Source: ABS 6291.0.55.003.

Regional employment outcomes were also varied in 2010-11. Likely reflecting strength in the resources sector, employment growth in the Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West labour force region was strong in the year, at 5.9%, or 12,200 persons. Employment growth was also strong in the Sunshine Coast and Northern-North West labour force regions, at 5.3% and 5.0% respectively. In contrast employment fell in the Wide Bay-Burnett and Darling Downs-South West regions, by 2.1% and 1.2% respectively.

Participation rate and the labour force

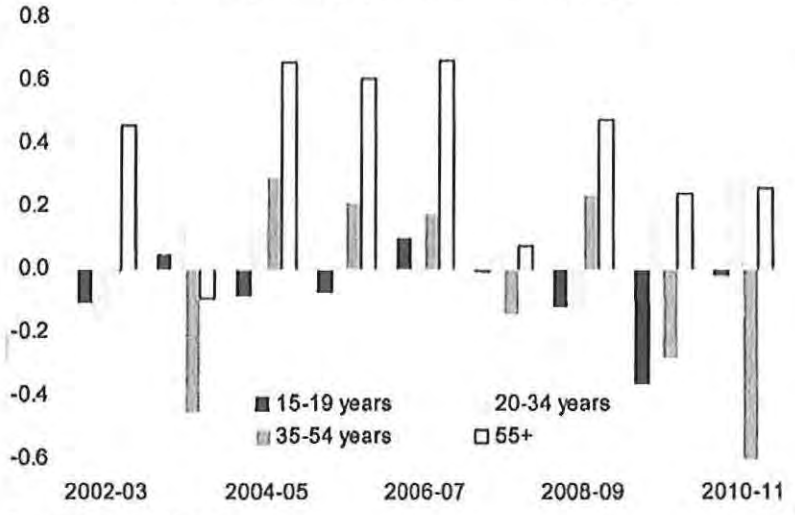
The State's labour force participation rate stabilised, at 67.5%, in 2010-11, as a decline in the participation rate for the 35-54 age cohort was largely offset by rises in most other cohorts.

Specifically, modest employment outcomes for persons aged 35 to 54 years contributed to only 1,200 persons in this age cohort entering the labour force (persons employed or unemployed), despite a 14,400 increase in the civilian population (persons aged 15 years and older) for this age group (see Figure 5b). Elsewhere, the participation rates of people aged between 15 and 29 rose, but remained below peaks prior to the global financial crisis. The participation rate of persons aged over 55 years continued to rise in the year, in line with robust employment growth for this age cohort.

Civilian population growth slowed from 2.6% in 2009-10 to 2.2% 2010-11. With the participation rate stable, the labour force in Queensland grew 2.1% in 2010-11, similar to the rate of population growth. However, the rate of labour force growth remains well below

previous years, which were characterised by a rising participation rate in addition to strong population growth.

Figure 5b
Participation rate by age cohort
(annual percentage point contribution to change)

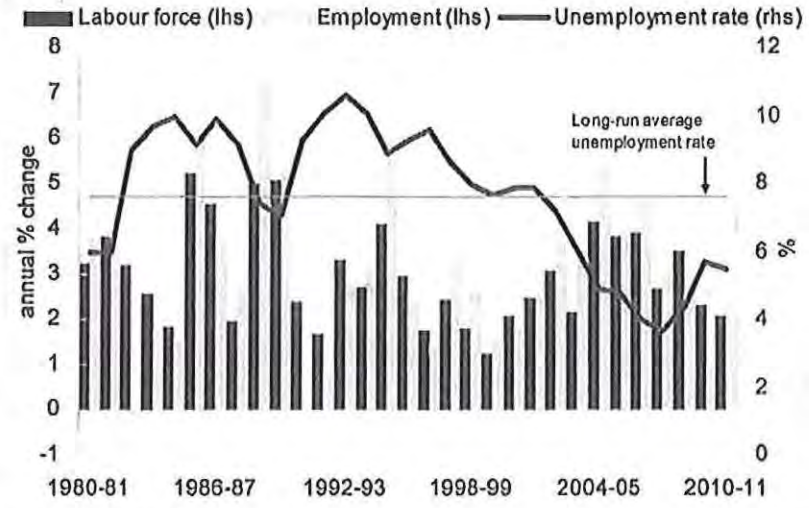


Source: ABS 6202.0.

Unemployment

With employment growth of 2.3% outpacing labour force growth of 2.1%, the year-average unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage point, to 5.5%, in 2010-11, the first fall in year-average terms after two consecutive increases (see Figure 5c). Queensland's year-average unemployment rate remained well below the long-run historical average.

Figure 5c
Labour market, Queensland



Source: ABS 6202.0.

6 Prices and wages

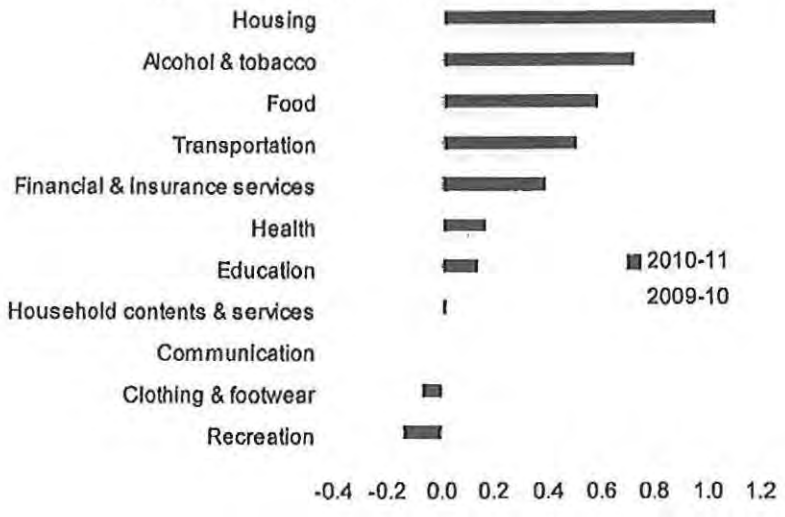
Consumer prices

The Brisbane Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 3.3% in 2010-11, strengthening from 2.7% growth in 2009-10. Housing remained the largest single contributor to inflation in the year, with rents, utilities and construction costs together contributing almost one-third of the total rise in headline prices.

However, the contribution from housing was in line with that in the previous year, with the strengthening in overall inflation in 2010-11 largely reflecting transitory factors. The impact of widespread flooding and Cyclone Yasi saw higher fruit and vegetable prices contribute 0.4 percentage point to year-average inflation in 2010-11, a contribution that will be unwound through 2011-12. Rises in world oil prices drove automotive fuel costs higher, despite some offsetting influence from the appreciation in the A$. The federal increase in tobacco excise in mid-2010 fully impacted headline inflation in 2010-11, with higher tobacco prices alone contributing 0.6 percentage point to the overall annual inflation result. Financial and insurance services, after detracting from inflation in 2009-10, contributed to CPI growth in 2010-11, reflecting higher insurance premiums and an increase in the wedge between lending and deposit rates.

However, outside of the above factors, inflation was contained, limited by the appreciation in the A$ and subdued consumer demand. Falling prices for overall discretionary goods and services, including recreation and clothing and footwear, detracted a combined 0.2 percentage point from inflation in the year.

Figure 6a
Components of CPI, Brisbane
(annual percentage point contribution to growth)



Source: ABS 6401.0.

Wages

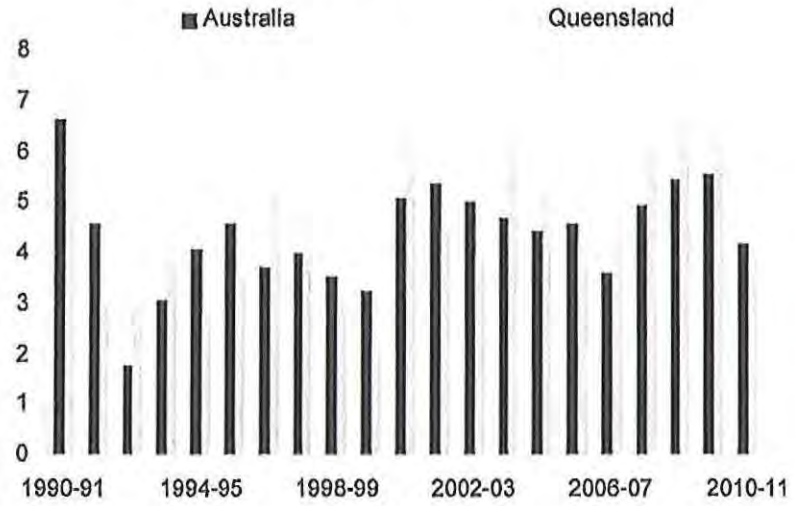
Reflecting the lagged impact of weaker economic and employment growth in prior years, growth in average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adults (AWOTE) in Queensland eased further to 4.0% in 2010-11 (to $1,262 per week), following growth of 6.5% and 7.3% in 2009-10 and in 2008-09 respectively (see Figure 6b).

Nationally, growth in AWOTE eased to 4.2% in 2010-11, with the level of AWOTE reaching an average of $1,283 per week. By industry, national AWOTE growth was strongest in electricity, gas, water and waste services (up 9.1%), transport, postal and warehousing (up 8.9%), mining (up 6.5%) and finance and insurance services (up 6.1%). AWOTE fell in rental, hiring and real estate services (down 2.1%), reflecting the subdued dwelling sector, and administrative and support services (down 0.1%).

The Wage Price Index (WPI) is a preferable measure of labour costs, which measures the increase in the price of labour that is not attributable to measurable changes in the quality or quantity of work performed. Year-average growth in the WPI in Queensland accelerated from 3.3% in 2009-10 to 3.9% in 2010-11. This compares with a similar acceleration in national year-average growth from 3.1% to 3.8%.

Industry trends in WPI growth nationally were similar to those for AWOTE and generally reflected the strength of the mining and related sectors during the year. In particular, private sector industries such as mining, utilities, construction, professional, scientific and technical services and finance and insurance all recorded WPI growth of above 4% in 2010-11.

Figure 6b
Average weekly ordinary time earnings
(full-time adults, nominal, year-average, % change)



Source: ABS 6302.0.

7 Resident population

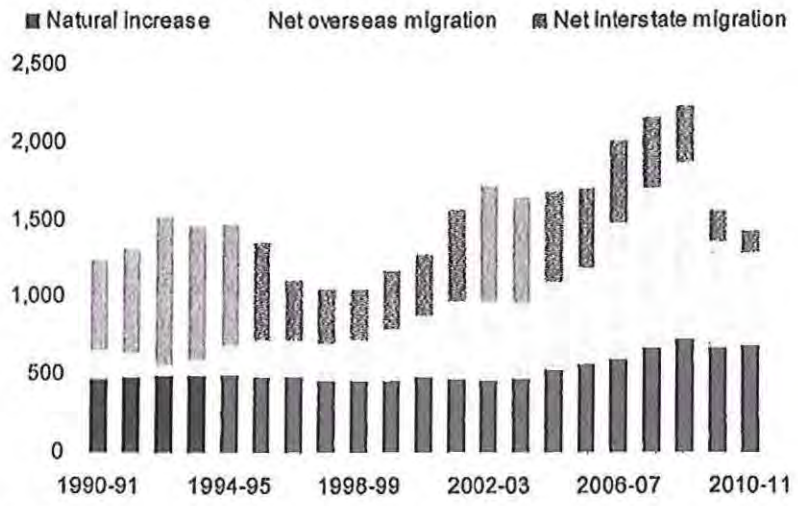
Queensland's estimated resident population grew by 1.7% in the first three quarters of 2010-11 (latest data available) relative to the first three quarters of 2009-10, while the population in the rest of Australia increased by 1.4% over this period. Queensland has now recorded faster population growth than the rest of Australia in each year since 1970-71. In the first three quarters of 2010-11, Queensland's population rose by slightly more than 1,428 persons per week, down from just over 1,631 per week in the first three quarters of 2009-10.

A slowdown in net overseas migration has been the main driver of lower population growth in Queensland and nationally since early 2009. The fall in net overseas migration partly reflected lower permanent settler arrivals from key source countries, such as New Zealand and the United Kingdom. However, another key driver of lower overseas migration has been a fall in enrolments in some long-term stay education sectors. These falls partly reflect past changes to Commonwealth migration rules and student visa policies. In the first three quarters of 2010-11, average weekly net overseas migration to Queensland was 608 persons, compared with the average of over 754 persons in the same period of 2009-10.

Net interstate migration to Queensland has eased since 2002-03, partly reflecting some catch-up in Brisbane house prices relative to other main states, though the wedge between Brisbane house prices and other state capitals widened in 2010-11. In the first three quarters of 2010-11, average weekly net interstate migration was 130 persons, compared with 186 per week in the same period in 2009-10.

Both Queensland and the rest of Australia have experienced an upward trend in the rate of natural increase (births minus deaths) since 2002-03, though natural increase slowed for both in the first three quarters of 2010-11. However, with a larger slowdown in net overseas migration, natural increase became the main driver of population growth in Queensland in 2010-11. The average weekly natural increase, at 690 persons per week in the first three quarters of 2010-11, was broadly unchanged from the same period in 2009-10.

Figure 7a
Contribution to resident population growth[1]
(persons, average weekly increase)



Note:
1. 2010-11 are estimates based on weekly averages for the first three quarters of 2010-11. June quarter 2011 data were not available at time of writing.
Source: ABS 3101.0.

Queensland
Government

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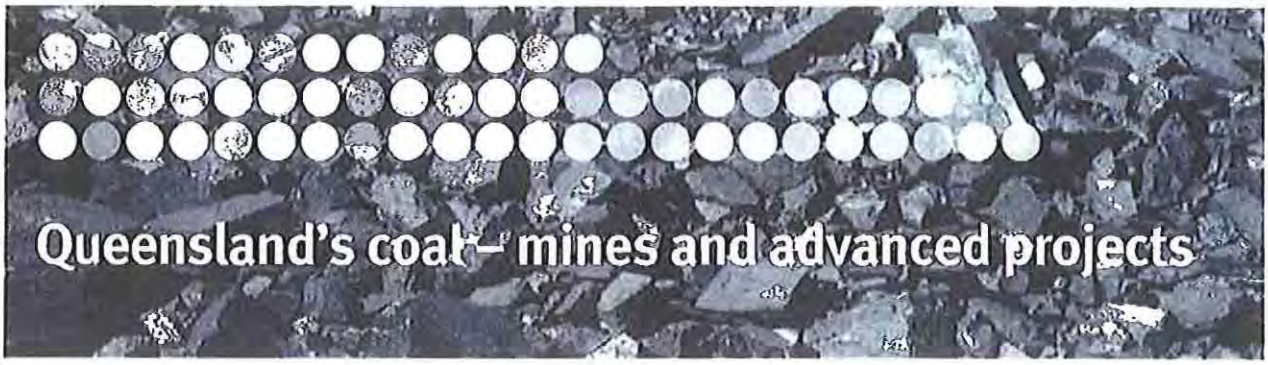
Review of Queensland Workers' Compensation Scheme

SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION BY THE ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION OF EMPLOYEES

APPENDIX 2

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
Geological Survey of Queensland



Queensland's coal – mines and advanced projects

June 2010

Industry update

Queensland has a rich endowment of high-quality coal resources, with more than 34 billion tonnes (raw coal in-situ) having been identified by drilling operations.

Identified resources of coking coal amount to approximately 8.7 billion tonnes, of which about 4 billion tonnes are suitable for open-cut mining.

The Bowen Basin, which contains virtually all of the state's hard coking coal, is the most important source of export coal in Queensland. The Callide, Clarence Moreton, Tarong and Surat Basins are important sources of thermal coal for domestic power generation.

The Surat Basin, with its large resources of potentially open-cut thermal coal, continues to attract interest both nationally and internationally and is set to emerge as a major source of high-volatile thermal coal for export.

Large-scale open-cut mining is expected to commence in the Surat Basin in the region from Chinchilla north-west to Wandoan and Taroom within the next five years, subject to establishment of new rail and port infrastructure.

In addition, exploration for export thermal coal now includes a focus on the previously identified large deposits of shallow coal that occur along the eastern flank of the Galilee Basin in western central Queensland.

Four major thermal coal developments are proposed for the region north-west of Alpha, to be supported by a new railway and expanded port infrastructure at Abbot Point.

Queensland's world-class coal mines and infrastructure, including electrified rail links from the coalfields, allow efficient production and transport of coal to six coal-export terminals.

At these terminals, ships of up to 230 000 deadweight tonnes load export coal for distribution to the world market.

Queensland's saleable coal production in 2008–09 amounted to a total of 190.5 million tonnes (Mt).

Exports totalling 159.3 Mt worth A$40.97 billion free-on-board were made to 37 countries. An additional 27 Mt, predominantly of thermal coal were supplied to domestic markets.

These exports comprised 109.6 Mt of metallurgical coal (coking coal used in iron and steel making and coal used for pulverised coal injection [PCI] into the blast furnace) and 49.7 Mt of thermal coal used for electricity generation and in industrial processes.

Quick facts *(2008–09)*

Saleable coal production	
Open-cut	159.7 Mt
Underground	30.8 PJ
Total	**190.5 Mt**
Coal exports	
Metallurgical	109.6 Mt
Thermal	49.7 Mt
Total	**159.3 Mt**
Operating coal mines	
Open-cut	41
Underground	13
Total	54

Locality maps and contact details for operators of Queensland's coal mines and projects are on pages 2-7
For more information go to www.deedi.qld.gov.au

The Queensland coal industry continues to expand to meet growing world demand, particularly from Asia.

Throughout 2008–09 a shift in demand occurred as coal sales decreased to some traditional markets such as Europe, Japan and Brazil, but increased very markedly to China. Sales also increased to South Korea, Taiwan and India.

To help meet increasing demand from international buyers, the Queensland Government is working with the coal industry and private enterprise to facilitate mine expansions, the development of new coal mining projects and provision of adequate coal export infrastructure.

Information about the timing and expansion of Queensland's coal infrastructure is available from Queensland Transport's website: www.transport.qld.gov.au/Home/Industry/Multi_modal/Coal_transport_Infrastructure

For further information contact:
Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
Geoscience Manager, Energy
PO Box 15216, City East Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone: +61 7 3362 9340
Facsimile: +61 7 3362 9343
Email: minerals@dme.qld.gov.au
www.deedi.qld.gov.au

Note: Statistics quoted in this brochure compiled by the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation, 2008–09.

Table 1: Queensland's coal – New coal mines under construction in 2009–10

Name	Resource Mt	Coal type	Project overview	Principal contact
Cameby Downs Surat Basin	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – 1.4 Mt/a for export via Brisbane www.syntechresources.com.au	Syntech Resources Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3232 3800 fx: +61 7 3232 3895
Clermont (To progressively replace Blair Athol Mine) Bowen Basin	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – 12.2 Mt/a first began coal in 2010 www.riotintocoalaustralia.com.au	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited ph: +61 7 3361 4200 fx: +61 7 3361 4370
Kestrel Mine Extension Bowen Basin	100–500	•	Underground longwall – extend mine to beyond 2030 www.riotintocoalaustralia.com.au	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited ph: +61 7 3361 4200 fx: +61 7 3361 4370
Middlemount Bowen Basin	10–100	• •	Open-cut mine – up to 2 Mt/a for export www.macarthurcoal.com.au	Macarthur Coal Limited ph: +61 7 3221 7210 fx: +61 7 3229 1776

Table 2: Queensland's coal – Advanced export coal projects in 2009–10 *(Mining Lease either granted or under application)*

Name	Resource Mt	Coal type	Project overview	Principal contact
Alpha Galilee Basin	>1000	•	Open-cut and underground longwall mines – 30 Mt/a www.hancockcoal.com.au	Hancock Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3231 9600 fx: +61 7 3229 4788
Belvedere Bowen Basin	100–500	• • •	Underground mine – n/a www.vale.com	Vale Australia Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3136 0500 fx: +61 7 3136 0510
Cameby Downs Mine expansion Surat Basin	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – up to 1.4 Mt/a to 10+ Mt/a www.syntechresources.com.au	Syntech Resources Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3232 3800 fx: +61 7 3232 3895
Caval Ridge Bowen Basin (part of Bowen Basin Coal Growth Project)	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – 5.5 Mt/a www.bhpbilliton.com	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance ph: +61 7 3226 0600 fx: +61 7 3229 2575
Colton Maryborough Basin	10–100	•	Open-cut mine – 0.5 Mt/a www.northernenergy.com.au	Northern Energy Corporation Limited ph: +61 7 3136 0500 fx: +61 7 3136 0510
Daunia Bowen Basin (part of Bowen Basin Coal Growth Project)	10–100	• • •	Open-cut mine – up to 4 Mt/a www.bhpbilliton.com	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance ph: +61 7 3226 0600 fx: +61 7 3229 2575
Drake Bowen Basin	10–100	• •	Open-cut mine – up to 6 Mt/a www.qcoal.com.au	Drake Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3002 2900 fx: +61 7 3002 2999
Eagle Downs Bowen Basin	100–500	•	Underground mine – up to 7 Mt/a www.vale.com	Vale Australia Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3136 0500 fx: +61 7 3136 0510
Eaglefield Mine expansion Bowen Basin	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – up to 10 Mt/a, includes North Goonyella underground www.peabodyenergy.co.au	Peabody Energy Australia Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3225 5500 fx: +61 7 3225 5555
Ellensfield Bowen Basin	10–100	• • •	Underground mine – up to 4.7 Mt/a www.vale.com	Vale Australia Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3136 0500 fx: +61 7 3136 0510
Elimatta Surat Basin	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – up to 5 Mt/a www.northernenergy.com.au	Northern Energy Corporation Limited ph: +61 7 3303 0695 fx: +61 7 3303 0601
Ensham Underground Bowen Basin	100–500	•	Bord and pillar and longwall underground mines – about 7 Mt/a www.ensham.com.au	Ensham Resources Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3221 1201 fx: +61 7 3221 1225
Goonyella Riverside Mine expansion Bowen Basin (part of Bowen Basin Coal Growth Project)	100–500	•	Open-cut and underground mines – increase by 8 Mt/a www.bhpbilliton.com	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance ph: +61 7 3226 0600 fx: +61 7 3229 2575
Grosvenor Bowen Basin	100–500	•	Underground mine to produce up to 4.5 Mt/a www.anglocoal.com.au	Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3834 1333 fx: +61 7 3834 1390
Integrated Isaac Plains Project Bowen Basin	10–100	• •	Open-cut mine – expand Isaac Plains Mine to 4 Mt/a www.vale.com	Vale Australia Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3136 0500 fx: +61 7 3136 0510
Jax Bowen Basin	10–100	• •	Open-cut mine – 1.8 Mt/a raw coal www.qcoal.com.au	QCoal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3002 2900 fx: +61 7 3002 2999
Kevin's Corner Galilee Basin	500–1000	•	Underground longwall and open-cut mines – 30 Mt/a www.hancockcoal.com.au	Hancock Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3231 9600 fx: +61 7 3229 4788
Lenton Bowen Basin	10–100	• •	Open-cut mine – exploration/feasibility studies continue www.newhopecoal.com	New Hope Corporation Limited ph: +61 7 3418 0500 fx: +61 7 3418 0355
Middlemount Mine expansion Bowen Basin	10–100	• •	Open-cut mine expansion – from 2 Mt/a to about 4 Mt/a www.macarthurcoal.com.au	Macarthur Coal Limited ph: +61 7 3221 7210 fx: +61 7 3229 1776
Millennium Mine expansion Bowen Basin	100–500	• • •	Open-cut mine – 4 Mt/a www.peabodyenergy.com.au	Peabody Energy Australia Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3225 5500 fx: +61 7 3225 5500
Monto Project Mulgildie Basin	100–500	•	Open-cut mine – about 1 Mt/a to about 1.5 Mt/a www.macarthurcoal.com.au	Macarthur Coal Limited ph: +61 7 3221 7210 fx: +61 7 3229 1776
New Acland Mine expansion Clarence Moreton Basin	500–1000	•	Open-cut mine – expansion 4.8 Mt/a to 10 Mt/a www.newhopecoal.com	New Hope Corporation Limited ph: +61 7 3418 0500 fx: +61 7 3418 0355
Olive Downs Bowen Basin	10–100	• • •	Open-cut mine expansion – up to 2 Mt/a www.macarthurcoal.com.au	Macarthur Coal Limited ph: +61 7 3221 7210 fx: +61 7 3229 1776
Peak Downs Mine expansion Bowen Basin (part of Bowen Basin Coal Growth Project)	>1000	•	Open-cut mine – plus 2.5 Mt/a saleable coal www.bhpbilliton.com	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance ph: +61 7 3226 0600 fx: +61 7 3229 2575
Sarum Bowen Basin	100–500	• • •	Open-cut and underground mines – preliminary feasibility studies continuing www.xstrata.com.au	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3115 5300 fx: +61 7 3115 5412
Wandoan Group Surat Basin	>1000	•	Open-cut mine – 22 Mt/a saleable coal feasibility studies to be completed by mid 2010 www.xstrata.com.au	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3115 5300 fx: +61 7 3115 5412
Washpool Bowen Basin	10–100	•	Open-cut mine – up to 2 Mt/a product coal feasibility studies continuing www.aquilaresources.com.au	Aquila Resources Limited ph: +61 8 9423 0111 fx: +61 9 9423 0133
Woori (Guluguba) Surat Basin	10–100	•	Open-cut mine – to produce 4 Mt/a saleable coal	Cockatoo Coal Limited ph: +61 2 9300 3333 fx: +61 2 9221 6333

• coking coal • PCI coal • thermal coal

Figure 1: Queensland's coal – Central Queensland map

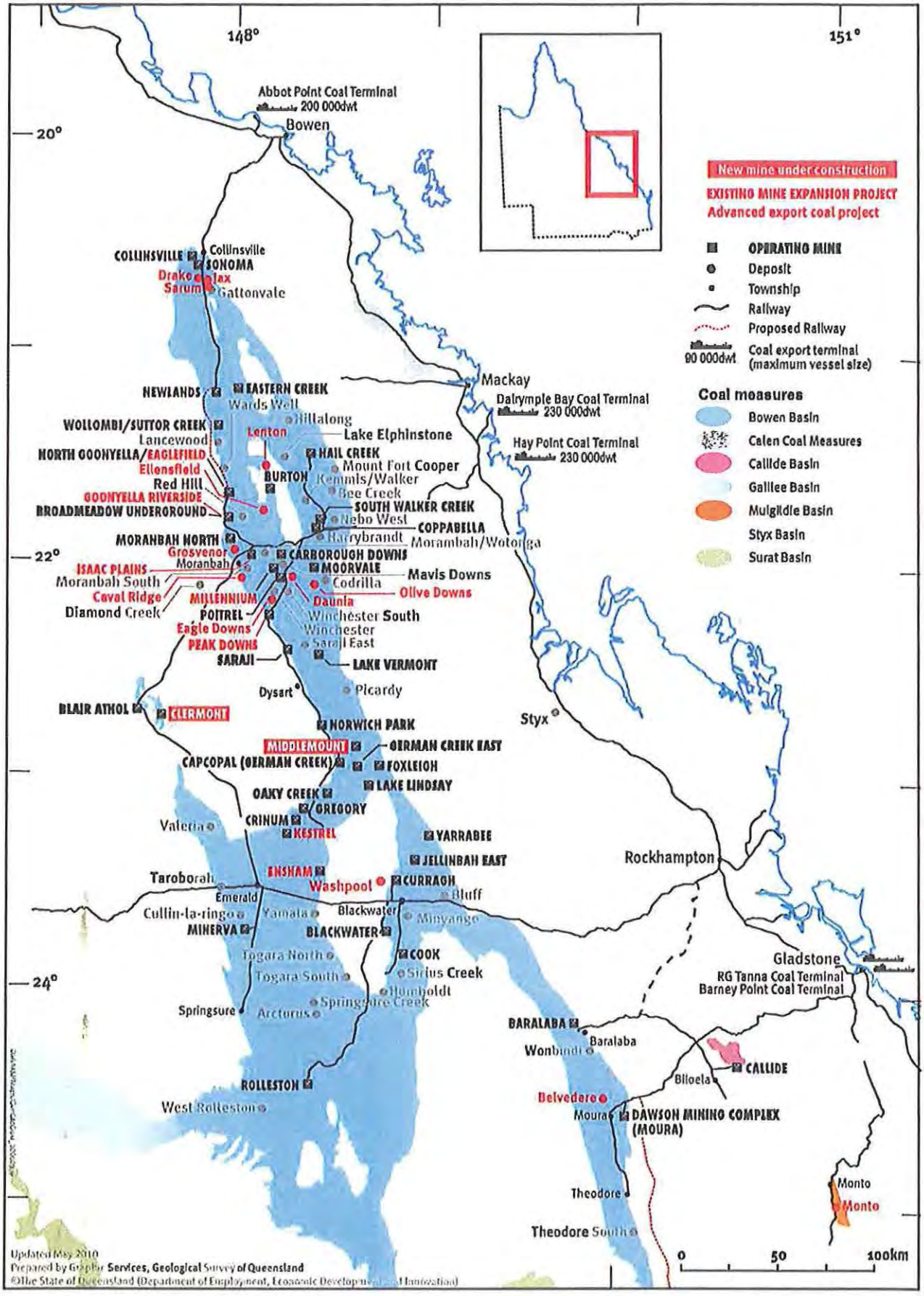


Figure 2: Queensland's coal – Western-central Queensland map

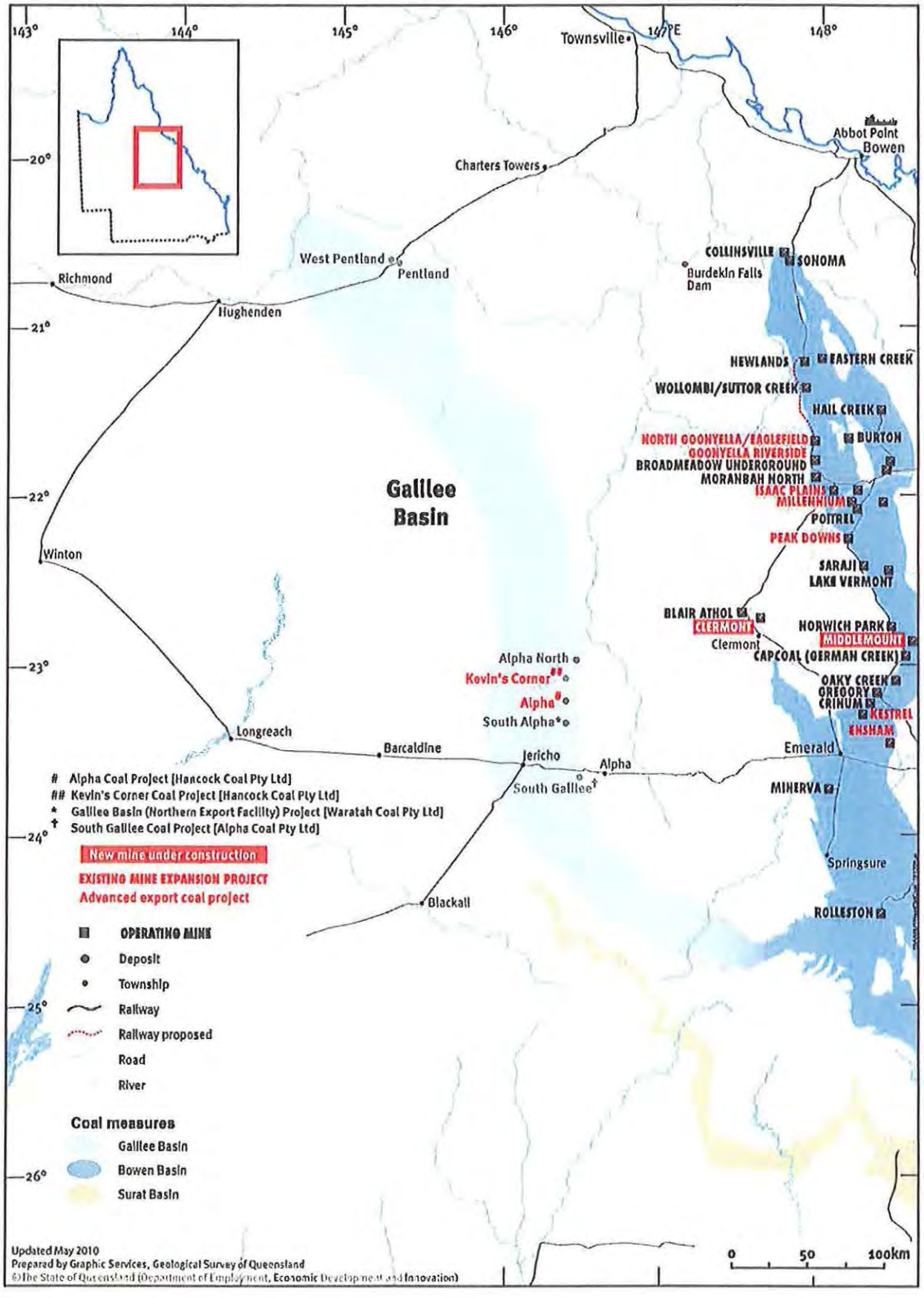


Figure 3: Queensland's coal – South-east Queensland map

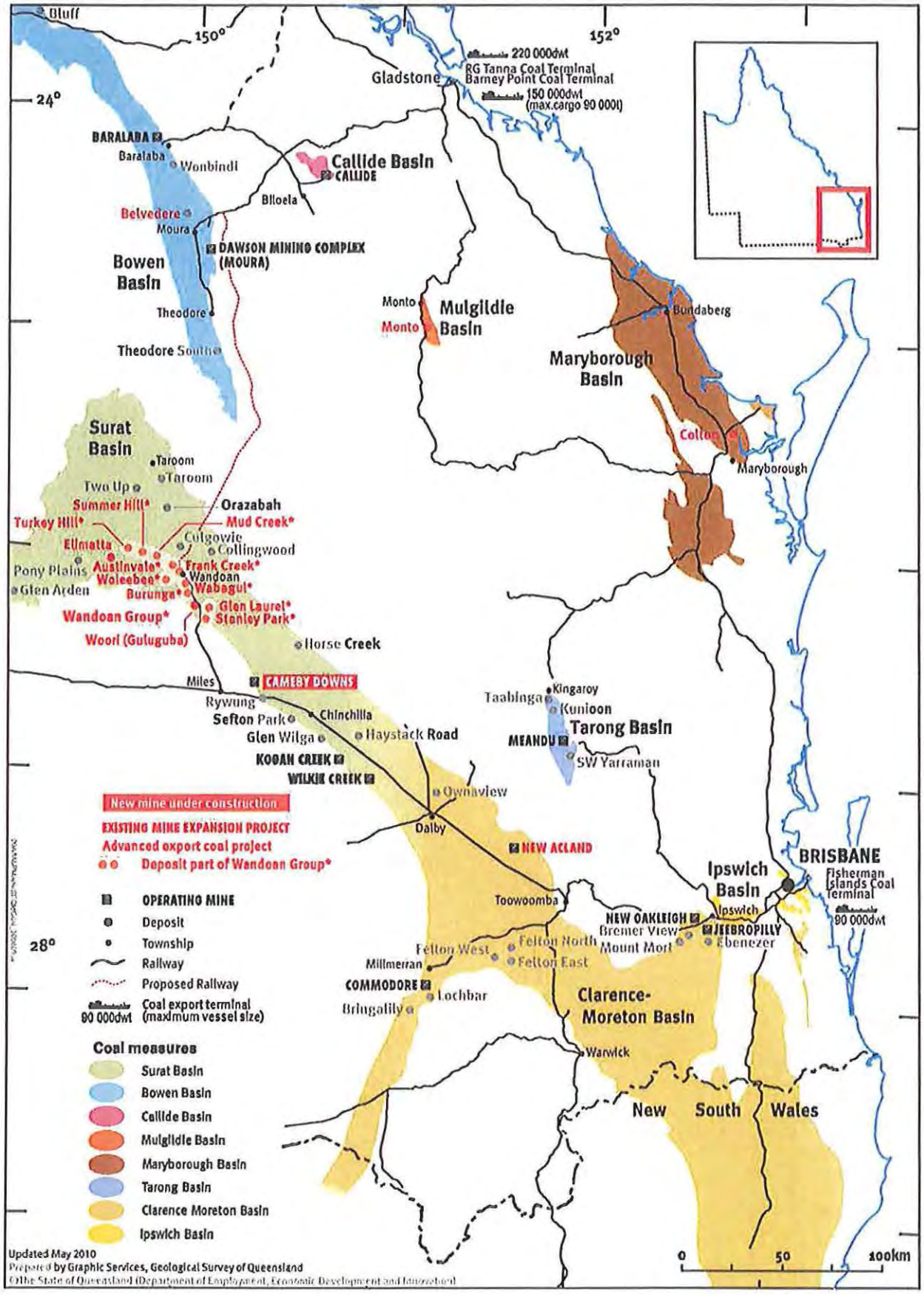


Table 3 : Queensland's coal – Operating mines and saleable production 2008–09

Name	Saleable (t) 2008–09	Coal type	Parent company	Principal contact
• Anglo American plc				
Callide and Boundary Hill Callide Basin	9 133 580	•	Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Anglo Coal (Callide Management) Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4990 1611 fx: +61 7 4990 1687
Dawson (formerly Moura) Bowen Basin	6 898 335 •	•	Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Anglo Coal (Dawson Management) Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4990 9700 fx: +61 7 4990 9800
Foxleigh Bowen Basin	2 368 509 •	•	Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Foxleigh Mining Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4985 9000 fx: +61 7 4985 9640
German Creek – Aquila*(1) Bowen Basin	105 300 •		Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	InCoal Pty Ltd (c/- Capcoal) ph: +61 7 4985 0200 fx: +61 7 4985 7962
German Creek – Grasstree*, Bundoora* Bowen Basin	3 993 576 •		Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Anglo Coal (Capcoal Management) Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4985 0200 fx: +61 7 4985 7962
German Creek – Lake Lindsay Bowen Basin	1 283 504 • •		Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Anglo Coal (Capcoal Management) Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4985 0200 fx: +61 7 4985 7962
German Creek East – Oak Park Bowen Basin	1 017 856 •		Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Roper Creek Joint Venture (c/- Capcoal) ph: +61 7 4985 0200 fx: +61 7 4985 7962
Moranbah North* Bowen Basin	3 080 418 •		Anglo American Metallurgical Coal Pty Ltd www.anglocoal.com.au	Anglo Coal (Moranbah North Management) Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4968 8600 fx: +61 7 4968 8678
• BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance - BHP Mitsui Coal Pty Ltd				
Blackwater Bowen Basin	10 497 208 •	•	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Blackwater Mine ph: +61 7 4980 5666 fx: +61 7 4982 6825
Broadmeadow* Bowen Basin	3 425 245 •		BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Broadmeadow Underground Mine ph: +61 7 4940 4319 fx: +61 7 4940 4833
Goonyella Riverside Bowen Basin	9 623 308 •		BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Goonyella Riverside Mine ph: +61 7 4940 4333 fx: +61 7 4940 4688
Gregory, Crinum* Bowen Basin	5 412 891 •	•	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Gregory Crinum Mine ph: +61 7 4982 8100 fx: +61 7 4982 8197
Norwich Park Bowen Basin	3 883 846 •	•	BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Norwich Park Mine ph: +61 7 4968 9222 fx: +61 7 4958 2357
Peak Downs Bowen Basin	8 772 587 •		BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Peak Downs Mine ph: +61 7 4968 8233 fx: +61 7 4968 8160
Poitrel Bowen Basin	2 438 995 • •	•	BHP Mitsui Coal Pty Ltd www.bhpbilliton.com	Poitrel Mine ph: +61 7 4968 8700 fx: +61 7 4968 8798
Saraji Bowen Basin	6 992 299 •		BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance www.bhpbilliton.com	Saraji Mine ph: +61 7 4968 9777 fx: +61 7 4968 9760
South Walker Creek Bowen Basin	2 993 046 •	•	BHP Mitsui Coal Pty Ltd www.bhpbilliton.com	South Walker Creek Mine ph: +61 7 4949 4500 fx: +61 7 4949 4525
• Felix Resources Limited				
Minerva Bowen Basin	2 570 995	•	Felix Resources Limited www.felixresources.com.au	Minerva Mine ph: +61 7 4984 1999 fx: +61 7 4984 1896
Yarrabee Bowen Basin	1 552 865 •	•	Felix Resources Limited www.felixresources.com.au	Yarrabee Mine ph: +61 7 4982 7730 fx: +61 7 4982 5793
• Macarthur Coal (C & M Management) Pty Ltd				
Coppabella Bowen Basin	3 329 688 •	•	Macarthur Coal (C&M Management) Pty Ltd www.macarthurcoal.com.au	Coppabella Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4958 0006 fx: +61 7 4958 0008
Moorvale Bowen Basin	3 030 699 •	•	Macarthur Coal (C&M Management) Pty Ltd www.macarthurcoal.com.au	Moorvale Mine ph: +61 7 4958 0250 fx: +61 7 4958 0590
• New Hope Corporation Limited				
Jeebropilly Clarence Moreton Basin	338 645	•	New Hope Corporation Ltd www.newhopecoal.com.au	New Hope Coal Australia ph: +61 7 3418 0500 fx: +61 7 3418 0355
New Acland Clarence Moreton Basin	4 226 649	•	New Hope Corporation Ltd www.newhopecoal.com.au	New Acland Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4694 8888 fx: +61 7 4694 8889
New Oakleigh Clarence Moreton Basin	472 235	•	New Hope Corporation Ltd www.newhopecoal.com.au	New Oakleigh Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 5461 9600 fx: +61 7 5464 2201

* Underground coal mine • coking coal • PCI coal • thermal coal (1) as at April 2009, mine is in care and maintenance

Table 3 : Queensland's coal – Operating mines and saleable production 2008–09 continued

Name	Saleable (t) 2008–09	Coal type	Parent company	Principal contact
• Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd				
Baralaba Bowen Basin	390 430	• •	Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd www.peabodyenergy.com.au	Baralaba Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4998 1592 fx: +61 7 3319 6589
Burton Bowen Basin	2 244 727	• •	Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd www.peabodyenergy.com.au	Burton Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4940 5555 fx: +61 7 4940 5561
Millennium Bowen Basin	788 323	• • •	Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd www.peabodyenergy.com.au	Millennium Mine ph: +61 7 4950 7068 fx: +61 7 3251 0849
North Goonyella*, Eaglefield Bowen Basin	1 866 994	•	Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd www.peabodyenergy.com.au	North Goonyella Coal Properties Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4949 2888 fx: +61 7 4949 2811
Wilkie Creek Surat Basin	2 319 843	•	Peabody Energy Australia Pty Ltd www.peabodyenergy.com.au	Peabody Wilkie Creek Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4663 5555 fx: +61 7 4663 5549
• Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited				
Blair Athol Bowen Basin	10 985 406	•	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited www.riotintocoalaustralia.com	Blair Athol Mine Joint Venture ph: +61 7 4980 2444 fx: +61 7 4980 2383
Hail Creek Bowen Basin	6 136 658	•	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited www.riotintocoalaustralia.com	Hail Creek Mine ph: +61 7 4940 5711 fx: +61 7 4940 5058
Kestrel* Bowen Basin	4 325 657	• •	Rio Tinto Coal Australia Pty Limited www.riotintocoalaustralia.com	Kestrel Mine Joint Venture ph: +61 7 4984 7500 fx: +61 7 4984 7577
• Vale Australia Pty Limited				
Broadlea Bowen Basin	878 178	• • •	Vale Australia Pty Ltd www.vale.com	Broadlea Mine ph: +61 7 1300 883 234 fx: +61 7 3503 9378
Carborough Downs* Bowen Basin	543 888	• • •	Vale Australia Pty Ltd www.vale.com	Carborough Downs Mine ph: +61 7 4958 0800 fx: +61 7 4958 0821
Isaac Plains Bowen Basin	1 849 093	• • •	Vale Australia Pty Ltd www.vale.com	Isaac Plains Mine ph: +61 7 4958 0888 fx: +61 7 4958 0880
• Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd				
Collinsville Bowen Basin	3 538 419	• •	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd www.xstrata.com	Collinsville Coal Company Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4785 4600 fx: +61 7 4785 4650
Newlands Bowen Basin – Northern*, Wollombi, Eastern Creek, Suttor Creek mines	8 772 206	• •	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd www.xstrata.com	Newlands Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4940 5200 fx: +61 7 4940 5211
Oaky Creek Bowen Basin – Oaky Creek No.1*, Oaky North* mines	5 564 000	•	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd www.xstrata.com	Oaky Creek Coal Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 4984 7200 fx: +61 7 4984 7240
Rolleston Bowen Basin	7 232 411	•	Xstrata Coal Queensland Pty Ltd www.xstrata.com	Rolleston Mine ph: +61 7 4988 9100 fx: +61 7 4988 9151
• Other companies operating coal mines in Queensland				
Commodore Clarence Moreton Basin	3 507 834	•	Millmerran Operating Company Pty Ltd www.intergen.com	Downer EDI Mining Pty Ltd (mine contractor) ph: +61 7 3026 6666 fx: +61 7 3026 6060
Cook* Bowen Basin	514 991	• •	Caledon Coal Pty Ltd www.caledonresources.com	Cook Mine ph: +61 7 4986 1600 fx: +61 7 4986 1655
Curragh Bowen Basin	9 452 118	• • •	Wesfarmers Resources Limited www.wesresources.com.au	Curragh Mine ph: +61 7 4986 9211 fx: +61 7 4986 1649
Ensham Bowen Basin	6 533 591	•	Ensham Resources Pty Ltd www.ensham.com.au	Ensham Mine ph: +61 7 4987 3601 fx: +61 7 4987 3622
Jellinbah East Bowen Basin	4 348 237	• •	Jellinbah Mining Pty Ltd www.jellinbah.com.au	Jellinbah East Mine ph: +61 7 4980 1000 fx: +61 4980 1019
Kogan Creek Surat Basin	2 405 872	•	CS Energy Ltd www.csenergy.com.au	Golding Contractors Pty Ltd (mine contractor) ph: +61 7 3510 3400 fx: +61 7 3510 3451
Lake Vermont (2) Bowen Basin	1 179 517	• •	Jellinbah Resources Pty Ltd www.jellinbah.com.au	Lake Vermont Coal Project Joint Venture ph: +61 7 3877 6700 fx: +61 7 3221 7119
Meandu Tarong Basin	4 982 037	•	Tarong Energy Limited www.tarongenergy.com.au	Thiess Pty Ltd (mine contractor) ph: +61 7 3121 8500 fx: +61 7 3121 8750
Sonoma Bowen Basin	2 750 259	• •	QCoal Pty Ltd www.qcoal.com.au	Sonoma Mine Management Pty Ltd ph: +61 7 3226 7400 fx: +61 7 3226 7444

Coal Exploration and Mining Tenures in Queensland
All exploration and mining tenures are issued and administered by the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI), a part of the Queensland Government, under the provisions of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* and the associated Mineral Resources Regulation 2003. Coal mining is administered under the provisions of the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999* and the associated Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation 2001.

The three main tenures that are issued in Queensland for coal exploration and development as listed below:

1. Exploration Permit for Coal (EPC)
An EPC allows the holder to conduct coal exploration activities including geological mapping, exploration drilling and sampling (term up to 5 years and renewable according to performance).

2. Mineral Development Licence (MDL)
A MDL may be granted after exploration has proven, to a high level of knowledge, the existence of a resource. This tenure allows the holder to retain control of the resources within the defined area and conduct further testing and bulk sampling as approved by the government (term up to 5 years and renewable according to performance).

3. Mining Lease (ML)
A ML allows mining for a specified term, generally up to about 35 years commensurate with the proposed scale of mining and the size of the known resource, and is renewable.

Interactive Resources and Tenures Maps
Land in Queensland that is subject to or available for applications for coal, mineral and petroleum exploration, development and production titles, may be identified graphically by using the DEEDI web-based Interactive Resource and Tenure Maps (IRTM) system (Diagram 1).

This system allows the user to zoom, pan, search and display geological data with mining and exploration tenure information for the whole of the State of Queensland. Data are updated daily and automatically displays onscreen.

Queensland Digital Exploration Reports
The system also provides a spatial search tool to access historical open-file company exploration reports on the Queensland Digital Exploration Reports system (QDEX).

Getting started
A map of Queensland will automatically appear on the screen. A set of tools, located on the screen above the map, allows the user to interrogate various layers which may be selected from a series of options as listed on the left side of the screen.

The user can interact with this map image using the tools (e.g. to zoom-in or Identify features) and layers to display the chosen spatial information. A guide to operate the system is available via the HELP button in the tool bar at the top of the map.

Further information:
IRTM support phone: +61 7 3896 9875
Email: geological_info@dme.qld.gov.au
IRTM website: www.dme.qld.gov.au/mines/tenure_maps.cfm
Mining tenures: www.dme.qld.gov.au/mines/land_tenure.cfm

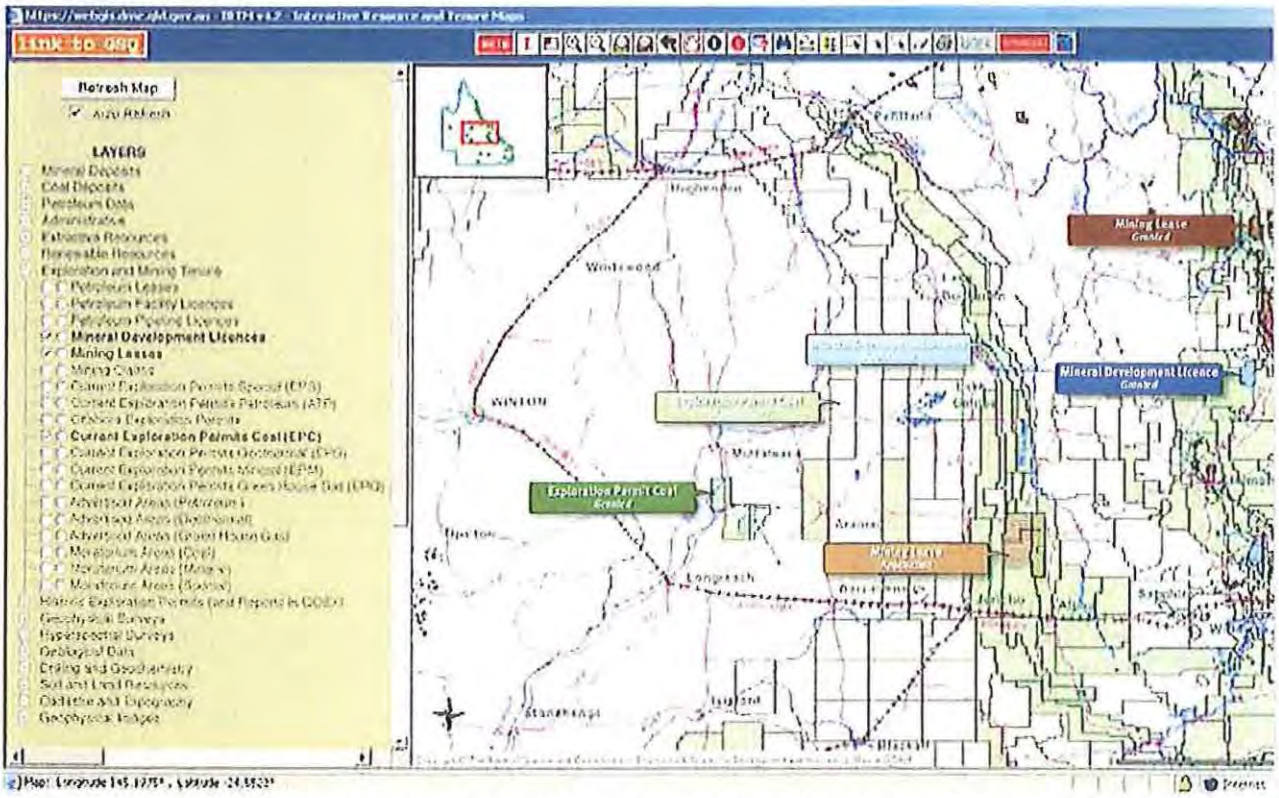


Diagram 1: IRTM screen image showing coal exploration and mining tenures in parts of the Galilee Basin and western Bowen Basin (12 May 2010)