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21 April 2015

Research Director
Finance and Administration Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

RECEIVED
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Finance and
Administration Committee

Email: fac@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir/ Madam

Payroll Tax Rebate, Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 – Part 4 Amendment of the Environmental Protection Act 1994

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the *Payroll Tax Rebate, Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015* (the Bill).

This submission is made on behalf of Mount Isa Mines Limited (MIM) and only relates to Part 4 of the Bill (Amendment of *Environmental Protection Act 1994*).

MIM supports the proposed amendments to the Environmental Protection Act 1994 in their current form. In particular, MIM supports the inclusion of section 344E in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, particularly where an approval for a Transitional Environmental Program (TEP) can be cancelled if the approval holder agrees in writing to the cancellation. This proposed amendment will allow MIM to have certainty in relation to the regulatory path available to it for any potential extension to its metallurgical assets in Mount Isa and Townsville.

MIM currently holds two approved TEPs (air and water) for its operations at Mount Isa. The TEP for air currently states that the Copper Smelter in Mount Isa will close at the end of 2016. MIM has been working closely with the Queensland government over the past 12 months to explore options for extending the metallurgical assets in both Mount Isa and Townsville, including the Copper Smelter. The potential extension will provide job security for 737 direct and indirect jobs in Mount Isa alone. However, any proposed extension to the Copper Smelter would be inconsistent with the TEP. Any environmental requirements regarding the proposed extension to the Copper Smelter are proposed to be managed through amended environmental authority conditions, and therefore an ability to cancel the TEP early is required. The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* currently has no such provision. The amendment proposed in the Bill now provides for this.

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A GLENORE COMPANY

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Yours sincerely



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Maryann Wipaki
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