

Copper to the World

South Australia: Copper Capital Powering the Decarbonisation Agenda

Dr Paul Heithersay | Tuesday 18 June 2024

energymining.sa.gov.au



Acknowledgement of Country

As guests here on Kurna land, we acknowledge everything this department does impacts on Aboriginal country, the sea, the sky, its people and their spiritual and cultural connection which have existed since the first sunrise. Our responsibility is to share our collective knowledge, recognise a difficult history, respect the relationships made over time, and create a stronger future. We are ready to walk, learn and work together.

Ngaityalngadlu taikunthitya yalaka

Yantupinarna Kurna yartangka, ngadlu tampinhi tupa yaintyu pirku wapinhi, wiwunthi yaitya yarta, yarlu, ngayirda, miyurnakuma paraku tuwila tapa purruna tarraitpayinhi. Muna tirntu parrka-parrka wanti.

Ngadluku taingi ngutu yungkurinhi, tampinhi yurni ngantanhi pukingka, niipurna pintyathi mankurrititya, taingintya tarrkarri pintyanhi.

Nata ngadlu padnitha, tirkatha Kuma kumangka warpulayi-utha.



% Annual Variable Wind and Solar Renewable Energy



SA 1ST RANKED
GLOBALLY

- 2** Denmark
- 3** Ireland
- 4** Germany
- 5** Spain
- 6** United Kingdom
- 7** Chile
- 8** Australia



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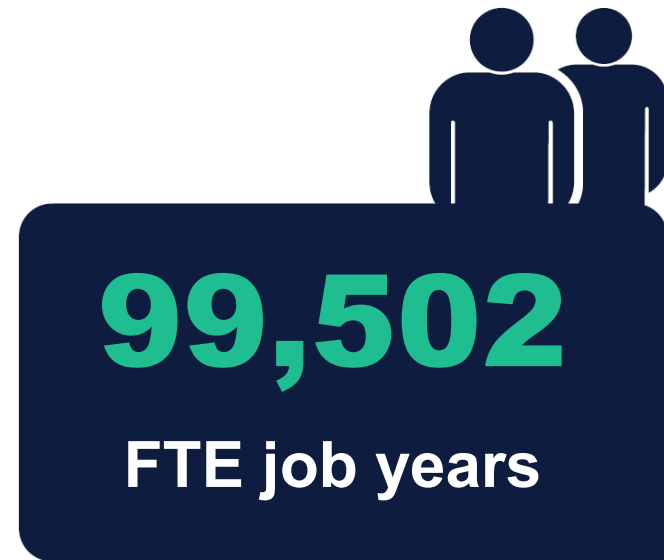
GEOSCIENCE

DISCOVERIES

INVESTMENT

MINING

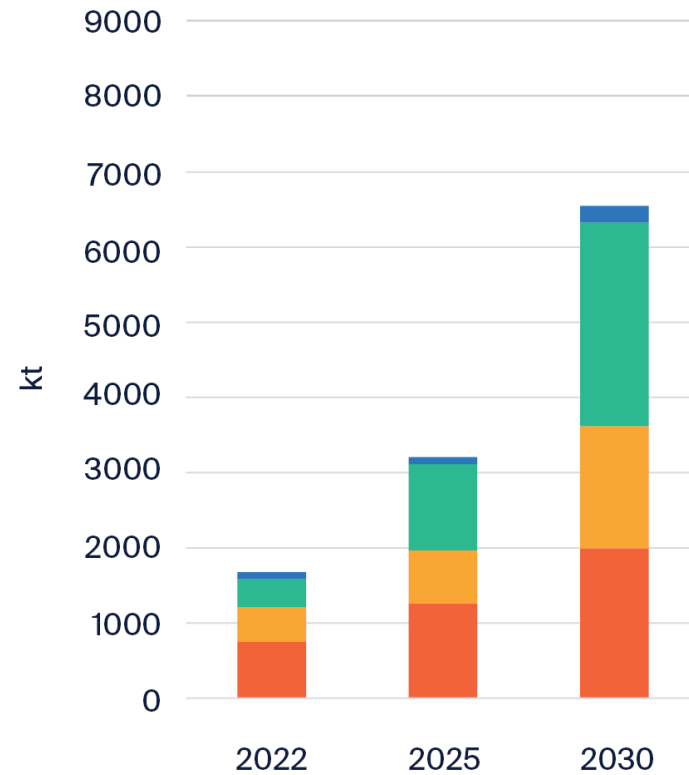
By 2050 minerals for the global green transition can add



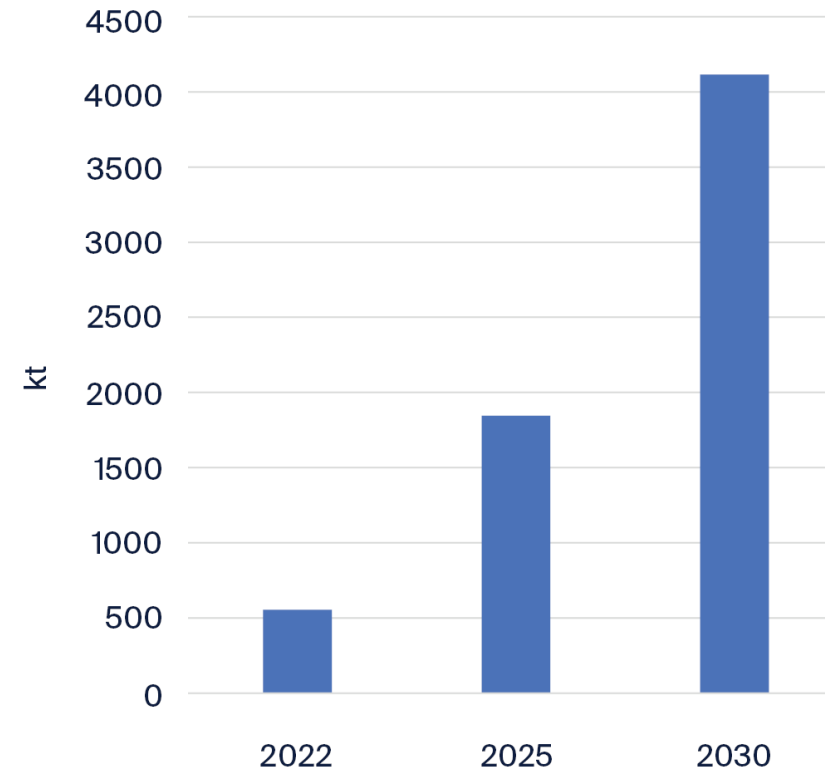
Close to tripling in demand for copper energy minerals by 2030



Copper



Graphite

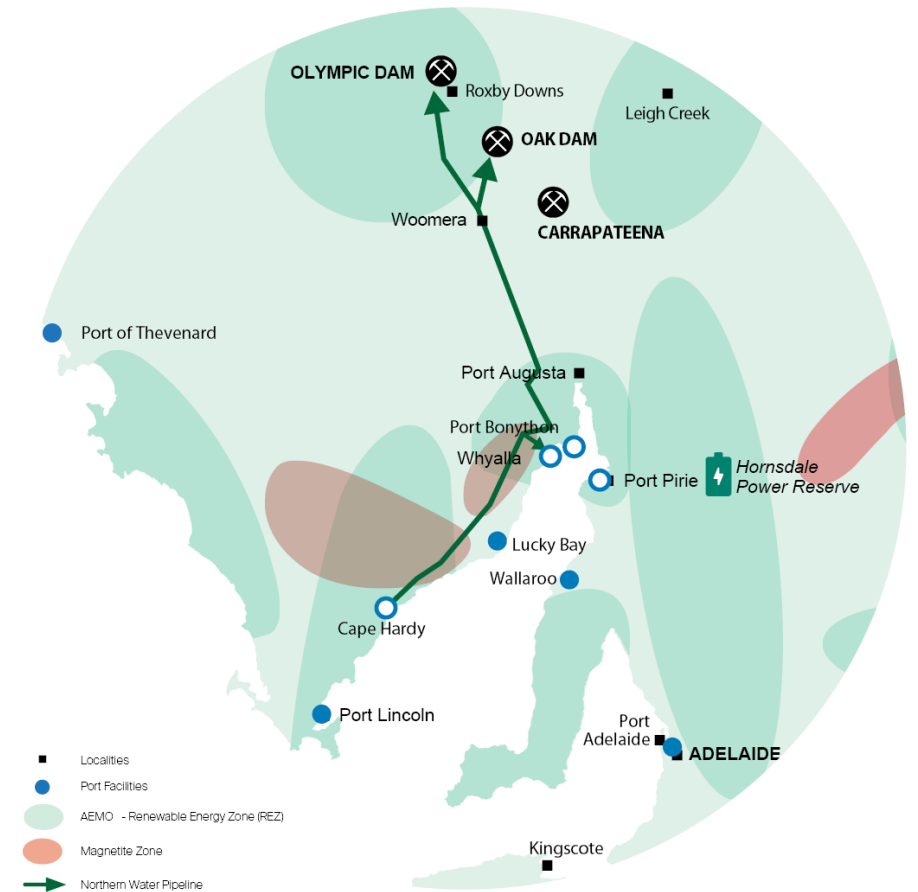


■ Electricity Networks
 ■ Solar
 ■ Wind
 ■ Electric Vehicles



Capitalise on the global green transition

Leveraging South Australia's sustainability credentials and natural endowment to provide green energy, products and services to the world, contributing to both our smart and sustainable economy ambitions.



South Australia's Copper Growth Strategy



Accelerate exploration, **discovery** and information



Develop **innovative** infrastructure, services and research



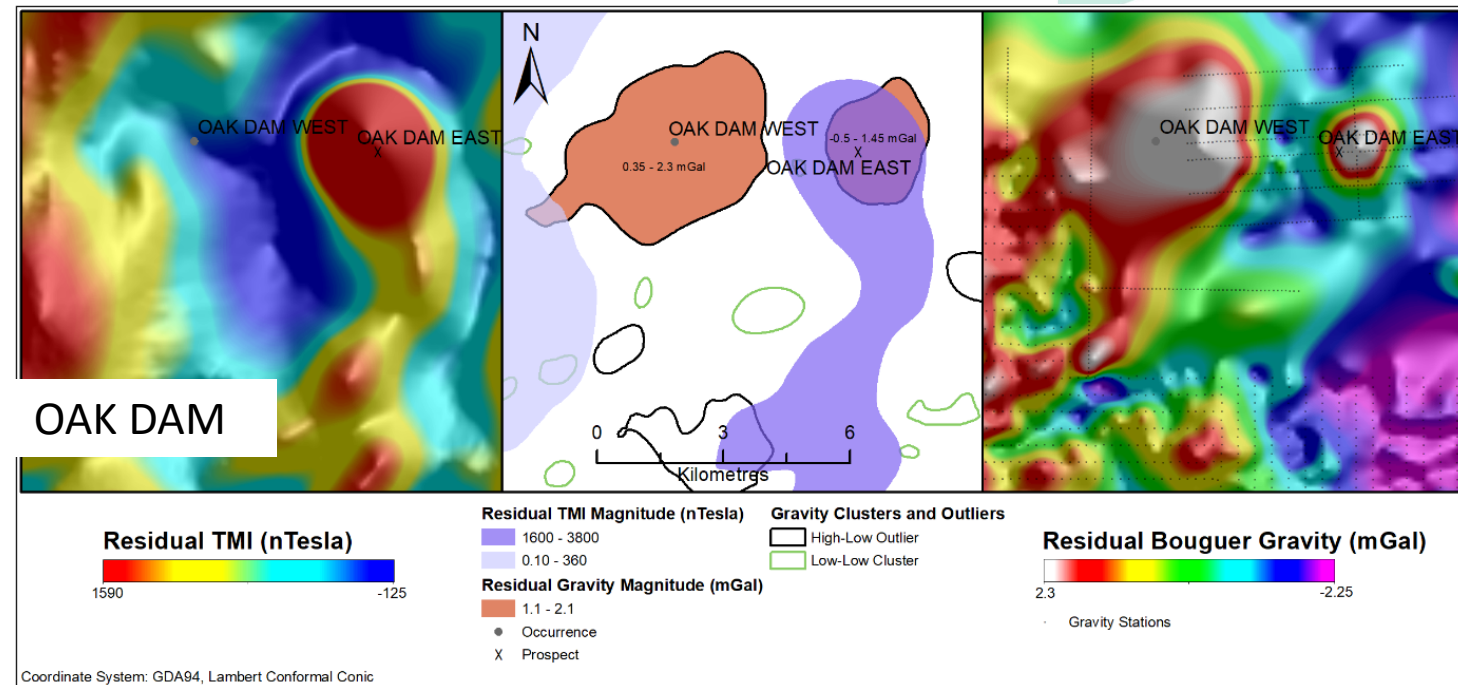
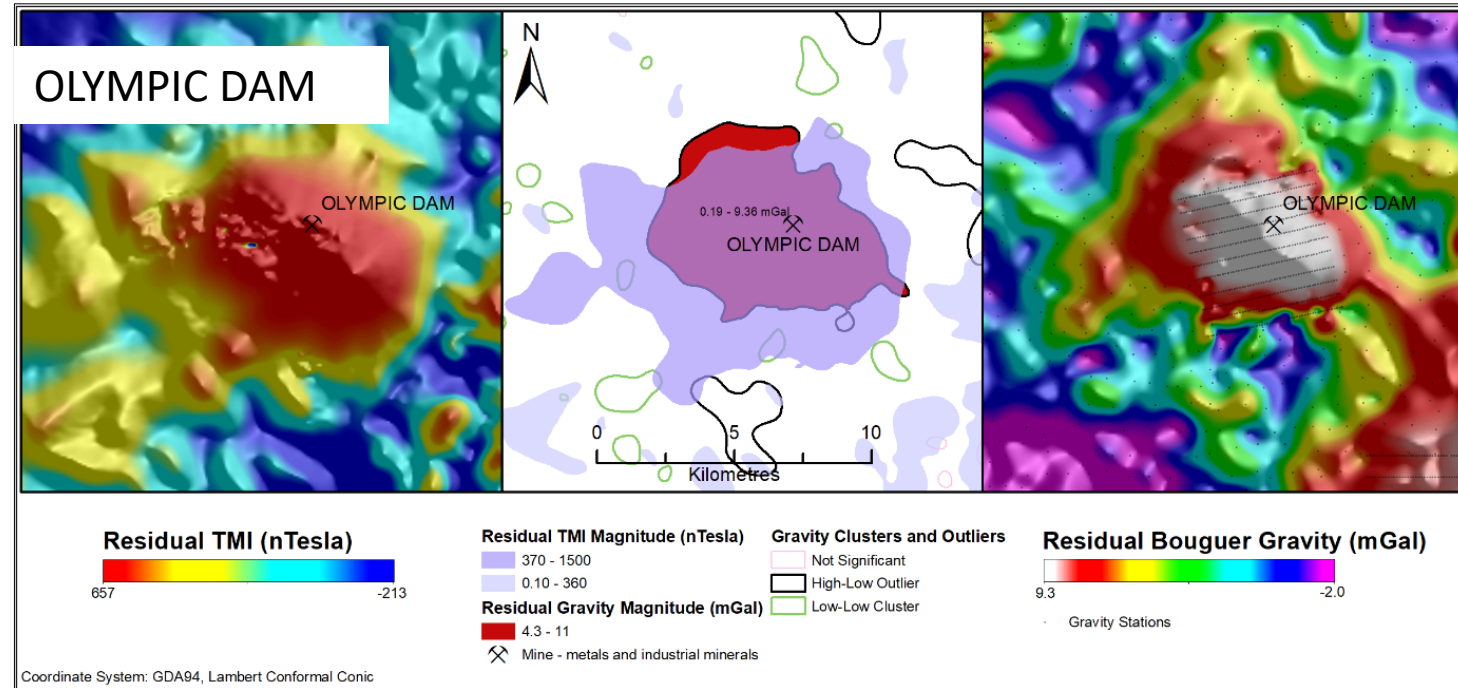
Engage to build **industry** and **community** capacity



Deposit Footprints

- Spatial statistics to quantify correlations between magnetic and gravity responses
- Gravity and magnetic polygons over selected IOCG deposits/prospects
- Oak Dam West gravity high

Katona and Fabris, in press. GAC-MAC 2019, Quebec, SC Volume "Exploring for IOCG Deposits"

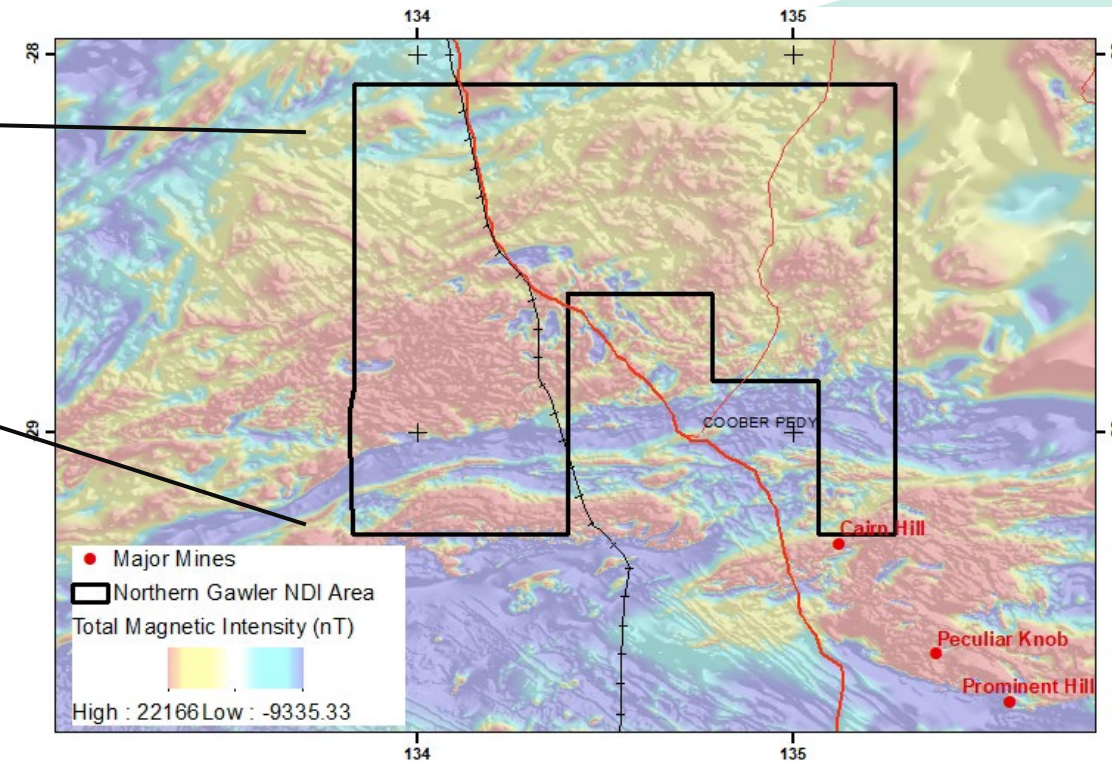
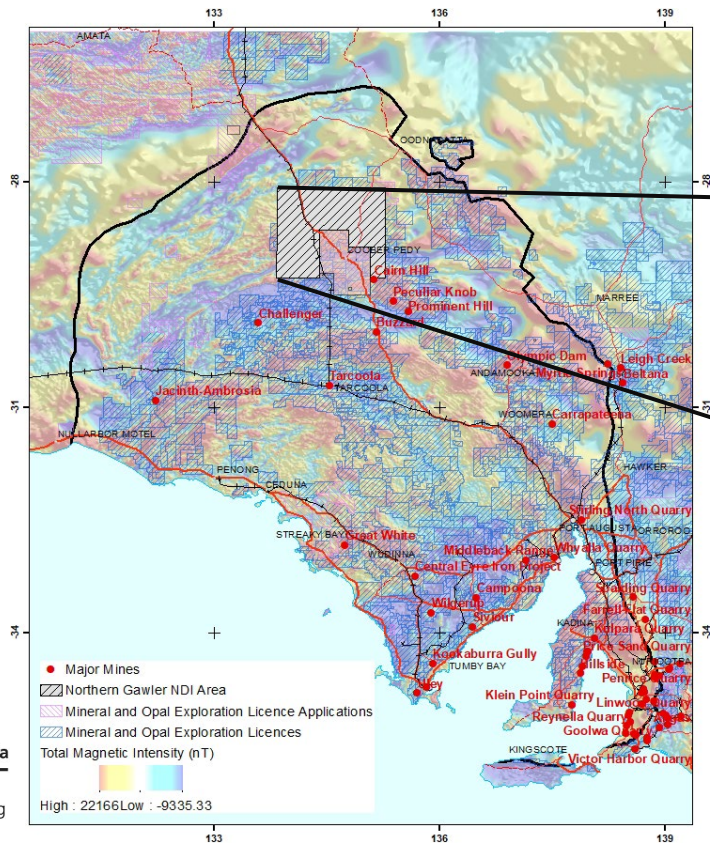


Northern Gawler Craton: NDI #2

- Copper-Gold, Nickel focus
- Stimulate greenfields exploration under deeper cover (200-400 m)



*Petratherm eastern
Mabel Creek Ridge
drilling; Open File
Envelope 11316*



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GP2 Value added data

5527 new gravity observations

→ Four-fold increase in resolution in many areas

307 new site observations

→ 3D models of the crust

over 300 new samples

→ to constrain basement geology mapping and inform on geological evolution

thousands of new surface and subsurface lineaments mapped

→ to connect basement to cover

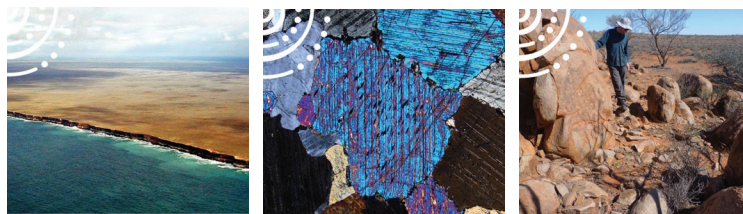
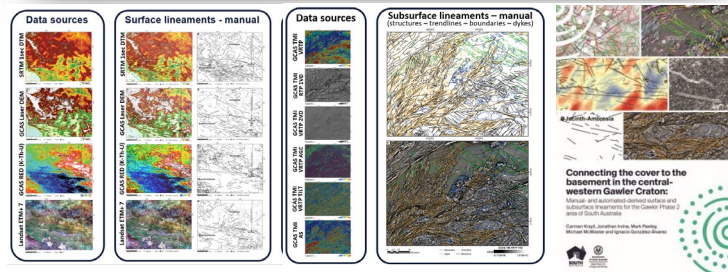
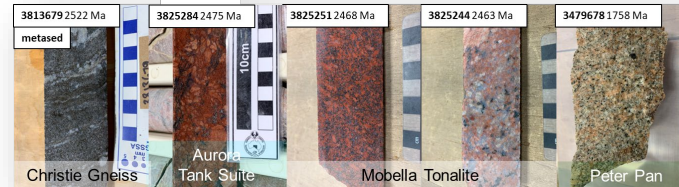
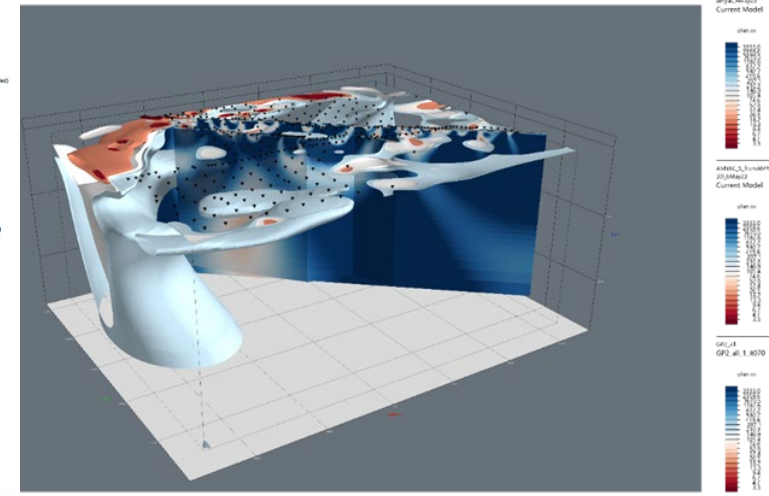
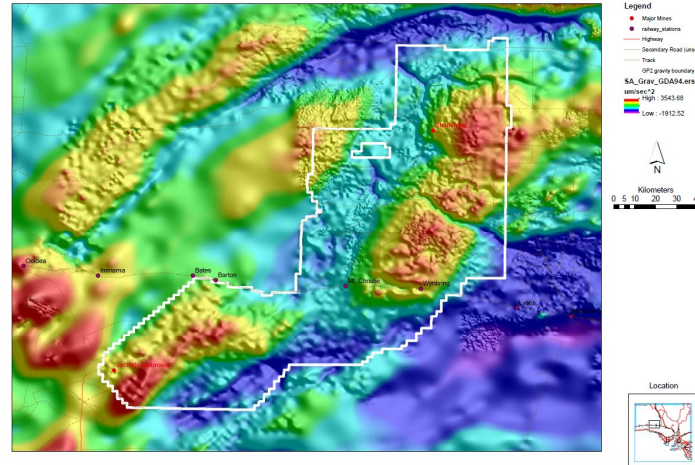
two new palaeochannel layers

→ new search space for mineralisation and groundwater

> thousands new legacy data

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South Australian gravity incorporating Gawler Phase 2 gravity



Eucua Basin and peripheral paleovalleys

B Hou, J Keeling, A Reid, A Potts and L. Sisson



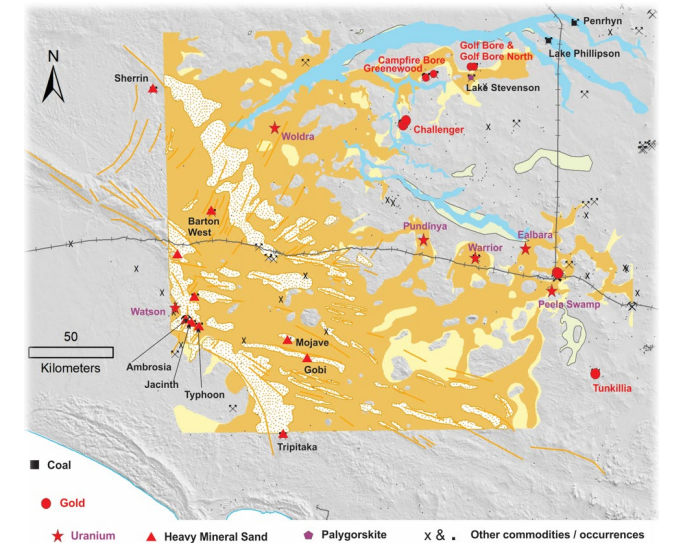
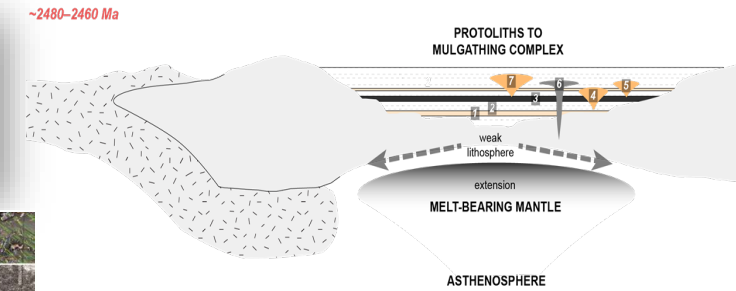
Multi-isotopic apatite and zircon SHRIMP U-Pb geochronological results from the central-western Gawler Craton

Oliver Brown, Anthony Reid, Elizabeth Jagoobhai, Megan Williams, Mark Fleming, Chris Kirkland, Alex Simpson, Saji Ghosh and Bruce Mawson



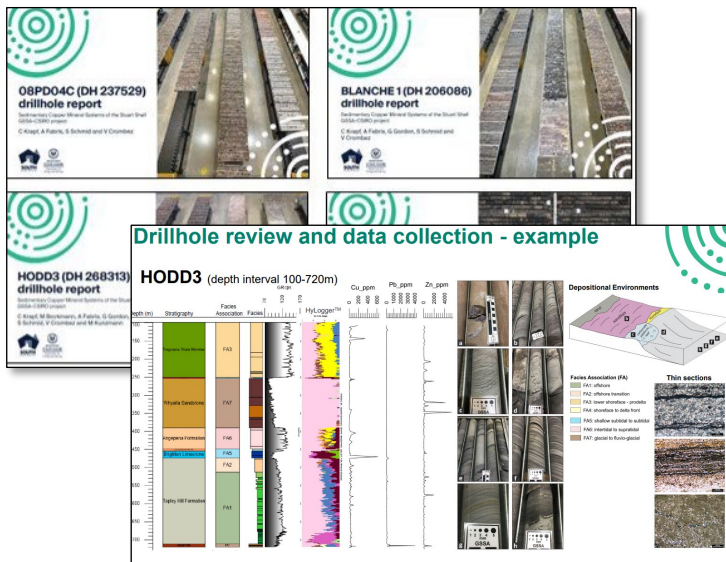
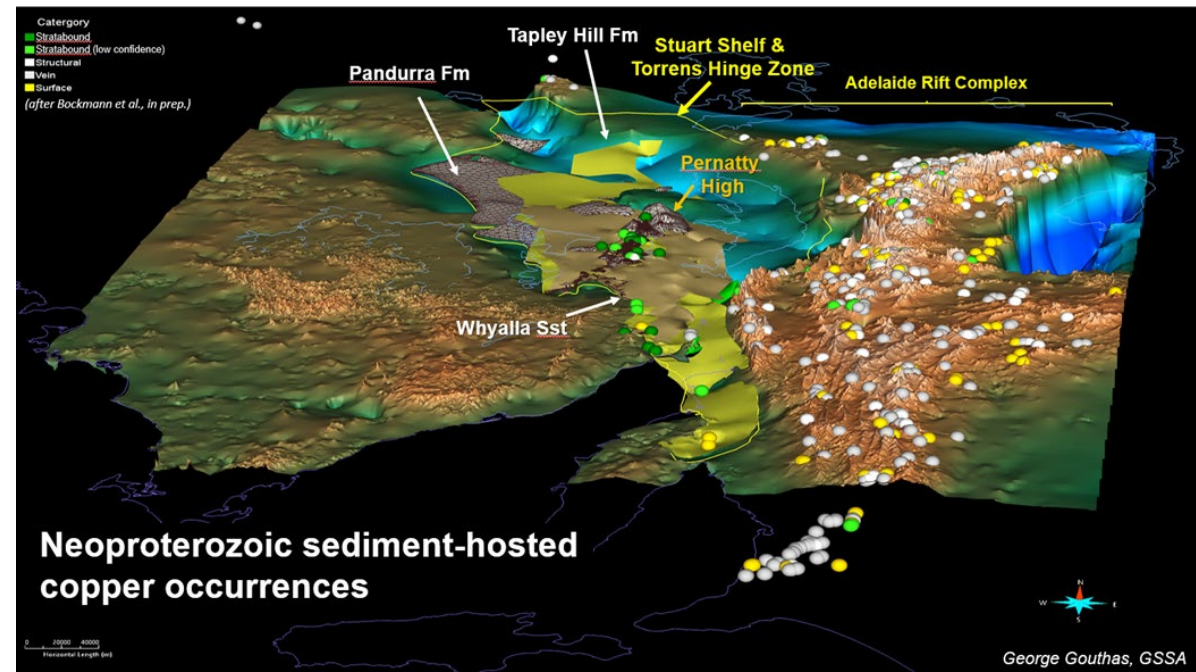
Zircon LA-ICP-MS geochronological and geochemical results from the central-western Gawler Craton

Oliver Brown, Just Ferry, Megan Williams, Anthony Reid and Elizabeth Jagoobhai

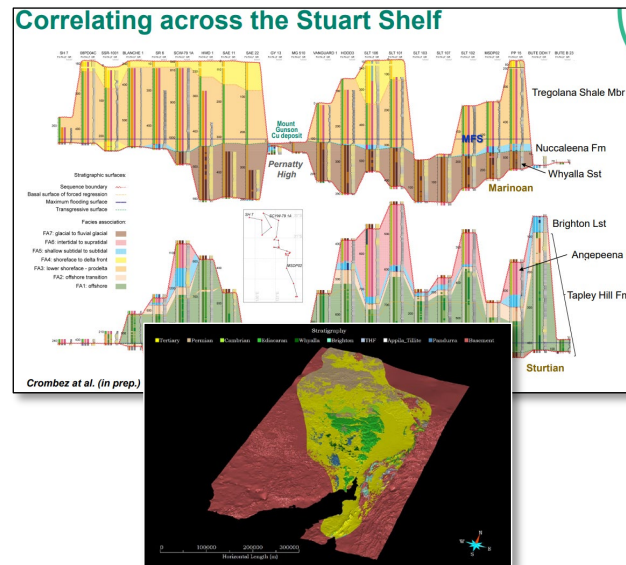


Sedimentary Copper Mineral Systems of the Stuart Shelf

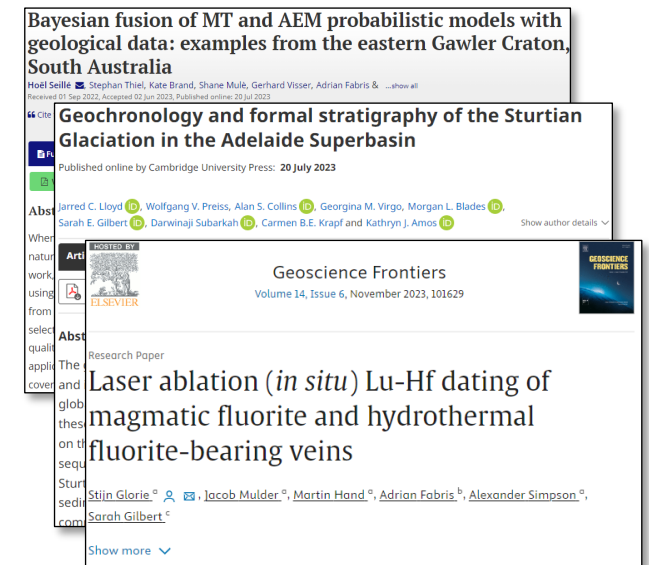
Joint project with CSIRO focused on sedimentary copper potential of the Stuart Shelf



Drillhole summary reports



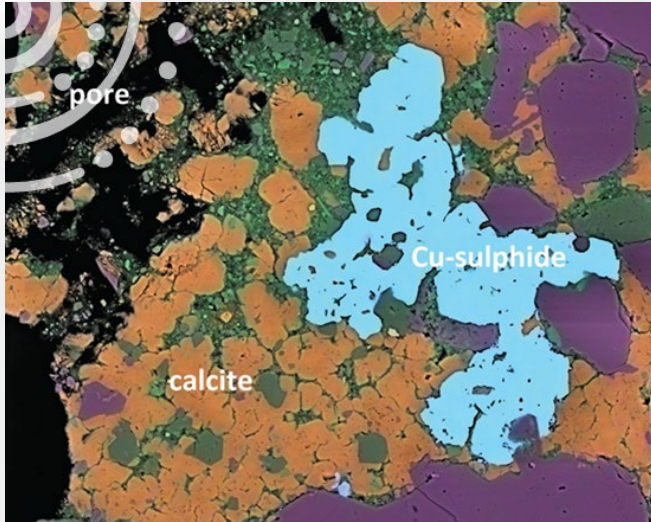
Cross-sections and models



Scientific papers

Sedimentary Copper Mineral Systems of the Stuart Shelf

Joint GSSA-CSIRO project to develop a robust model and understanding of the basin architecture of the Stuart Shelf to guide exploration for sedimentary copper in this area.

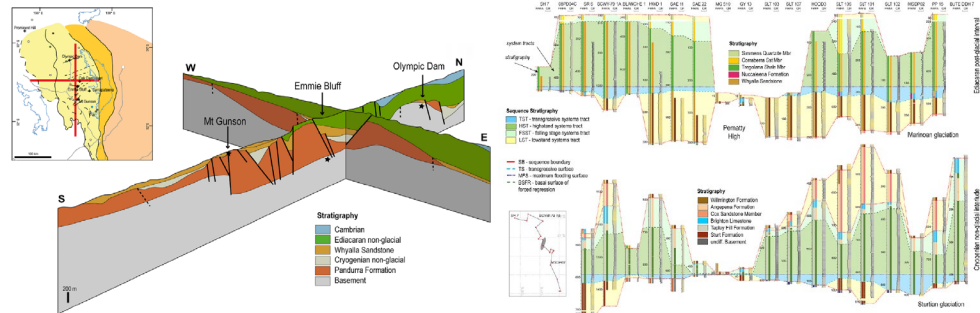


- New report with associated data package has been released summarising the methodologies and new datasets created by the CSIRO-GSSA project team. Includes drillhole characterisation and basin evolution, assessment of AEM to map basin architecture and an updated 3D model of the Stuart Shelf.
- New paper providing new insights on the Cryogenian and Ediacaran stratigraphy of the Stuart Shelf, marking a significant leap forward in our geological understanding.

Sedimentary Cu mineral systems, Stuart Shelf, South Australia

Metadata report

Susanne Schmid, Carmen Krapf, Clive Foss, Andrew King, Giovanni Spampinato, Vincent Crombez, Aaron Davis, Tobias Schlegel, Adrian Fabris, Mitchell Bockmann, George Gouthas and Georgina Gordon



AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF EARTH SCIENCES
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08120099.2024.2342376>

Taylor & Francis
 OPEN ACCESS

Stratigraphy and sequence stratigraphy of the Neoproterozoic (Cryogenian–Ediacaran) Stuart Shelf, South Australia

S. Schmid¹, C. B. E. Krapf², V. Crombez², G. Spampinato², A. J. Fabris², A. King² and M. J. Bockmann²

¹CSIRO Mineral Resources Australian Resources Research Centre, Kensington, WA, Australia; ²Department for Energy and Mining, Geological Survey of South Australia, Adelaide, SA, Australia

ABSTRACT
 The Stuart Shelf is part of the Adelaide Superbasin overlying the Gawler Craton and Carriewerloo Basin in South Australia. The basin is of interest for sediment-hosted copper mineralisation known to be hosted in numerous stratigraphic intervals across the region. Therefore, facies analysis and understanding of spatial distribution of host units are essential for exploration targeting and mineral systems research. Our study presents improved and new definitions of Cryogenian and Ediacaran Stuart Shelf stratigraphy, and a detailed, regional-scale sequence stratigraphic analysis. The Cryogenian non-glacial interlude was of particular interest, as it includes the Tapley Hill Formation, a known host for copper mineralisation. The succession of Tapley Hill Formation (including Sturtian cap carbonates), Brighton Limestone and Angapeena Formation represents a third-order depositional cycle, an equivalent to the lowermost cycle of the Cryogenian non-glacial interlude in the adjacent Adelaide Rift Complex. The Ediacaran post-glacial succession includes the Nuccalleena Formation and Tent Hill Formation and is interpreted as a second-order depositional cycle. The Sturtian and Marinoan cap carbonates form regional stratigraphic marker horizons and were deposited in a transgressive systems tract. Variations in facies and thickness can be linked to development of localised depocentres and topographic highs, such as the Penalty High. Modelling of 3D surfaces reveals a shift in the basin orientation between the Cryogenian and Ediacaran sedimentation from an NNW–SSE axis towards a N–S axis. The Stuart Shelf sequence stratigraphic framework provides new insights in the basin sedimentology and evolution, which aids sediment-hosted mineral systems analysis and improves the understanding of Cryogenian and Ediacaran basin evolution in Australia.

KEY POINTS

1. The Cryogenian non-glacial interlude on the Stuart Shelf represents a third-order depositional cycle.
2. The Penalty High develops during deposition of the Cryogenian successions.
3. The Stuart Shelf basin orientation shifts from NNW–SSE during the Cryogenian towards N–S in the Ediacaran.
4. 3D stratigraphic surfaces aids copper exploration targeting in sediment-hosted mineral systems.

ARTICLE HISTORY
 Received 4 December 2023
 Accepted 5 April 2024

KEYWORDS
 Sequence stratigraphy; Neoproterozoic; copper; mineral systems; Cryogenian; Ediacaran

Introduction
 Sedimentary basins host economically valuable metals, such as copper, lead, zinc, uranium, and critical minerals like cobalt, REE and lithium. The understanding of basin stratigraphy, architecture and evolution is fundamental in mineral exploration targeting using a sediment-hosted mineral systems approach. Facies analysis is one of the first steps in evaluation of prospectivity and comprises descriptions of depositional environments based on sedimentary structures and lithology. The stratigraphic framework and understanding of depositional environments allow prediction of the spatial extent of favourable host units. Thus, establishing such a framework is of essence for any further research in understanding and locating copper mineralisation within the basin using a mineral systems approach. Here we present a description of stratigraphy, lithology, depositional environments and show their distribution across the Stuart Shelf. The Neoproterozoic Stuart Shelf in South Australia hosts several copper deposits with most notable mineralisation at Mount Gunson, Myall Creek, Emmie Bluff and Sweet Nell (Bockmann et al., 2022; Tonkin & Creelman, 1990). Together with the Adelaide Rift Complex, its eastern neighbour, it represents one of the most prospective sediment-hosted copper provinces in Australia. There are 662 known copper occurrences hosted within the Neoproterozoic strata within the Adelaide Superbasin (including Stuart Shelf, Torrens Hinge Zone, Adelaide Rift Complex; Bockmann et al., 2022). Noticeable

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29
Cu
Copper
63.54

27
Co
Cobalt
58.933

6
C
Graphite
12.01

Kaolin-Halloysite
Al₂Si₂O₅(OH)₄

HM
Heavy Minerals

3
Li
Lithium
6.9410

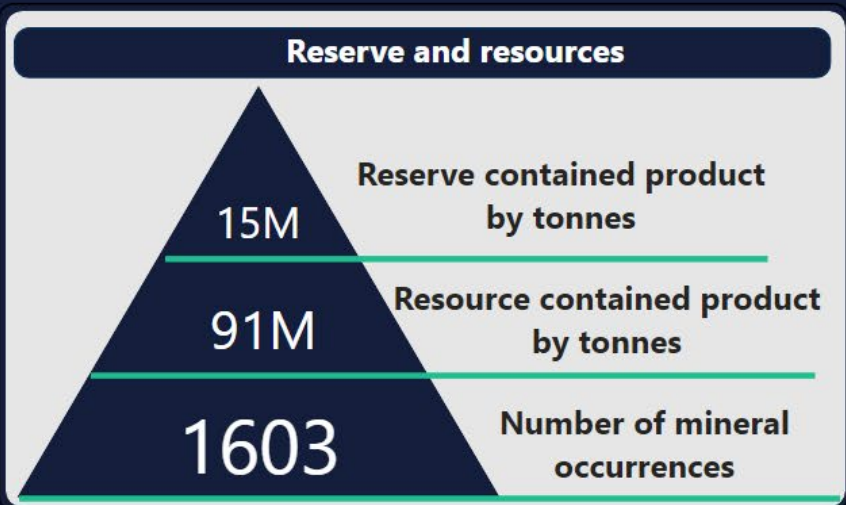
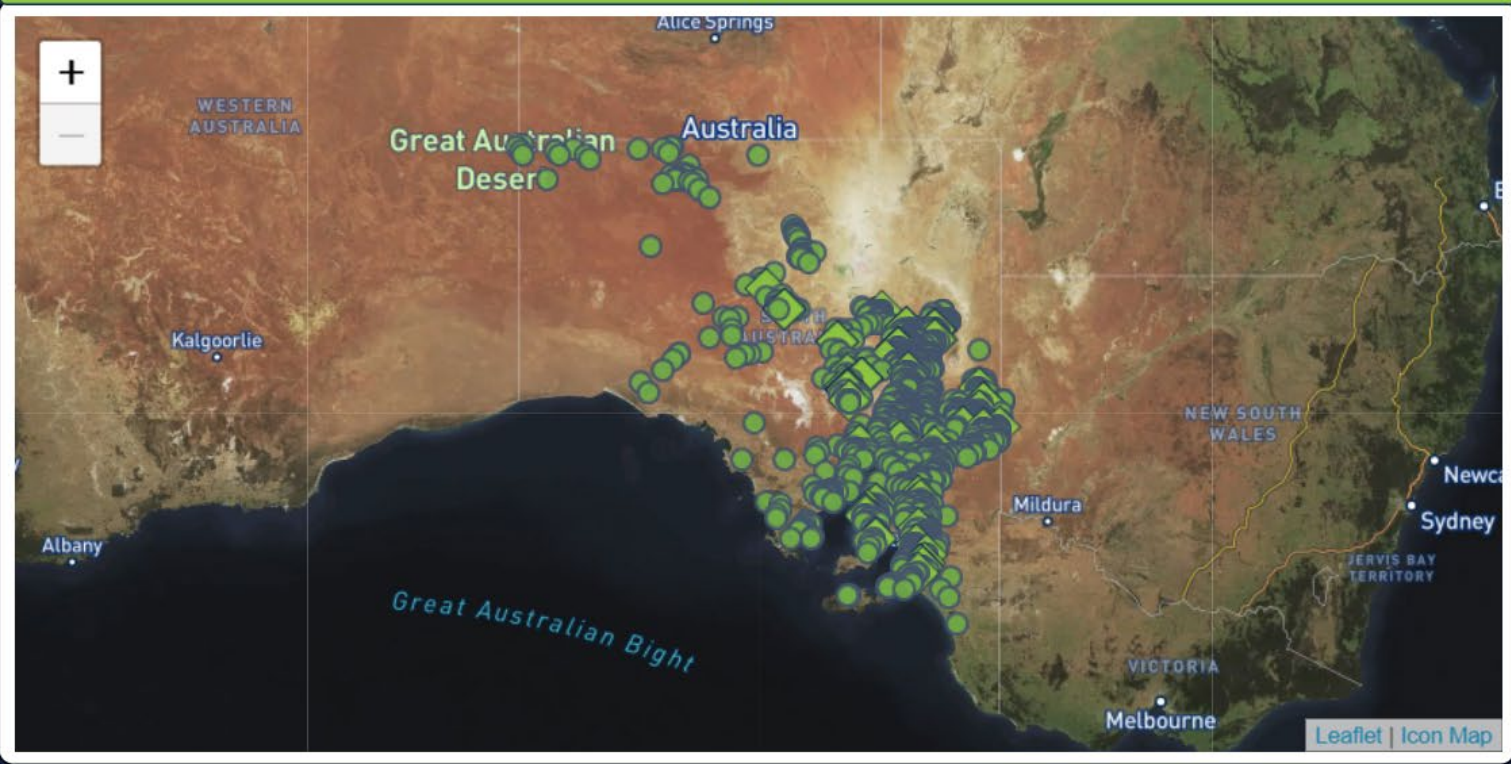
12
Mg
Magnesium
24.305

25
Mn
Manganese
54.938044

REE
Rare Earth Elements

23
V
Vanadium
50.942

Copper

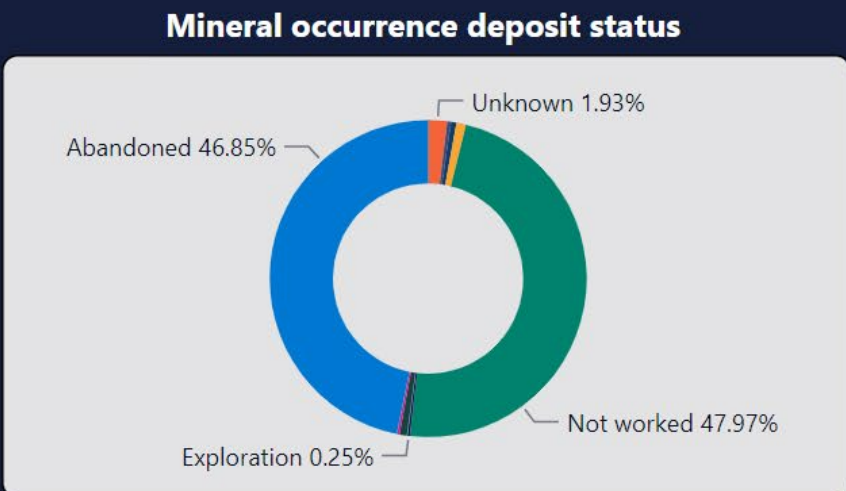


Mineral occurrence filters

Deposit name **Deposit type** **Deposit status**

Commodity layer **Infrastructure layer** **RESET**

Name	Mineral deposit links	Resource type	Resource class	Ore Resource	Ore Resource Unit	Resource grade average
Carrapateena	🔗	JORC mineral resource	Measured	140000000	Tonne	1.10
Hillside	🔗	JORC mineral resource	Total mineral resource	337000000	Tonne	0.56
Kalkaroo	🔗	JORC mineral resource	Total mineral resource	245480000	Tonne	0.49
Kanmantoo	🔗	JORC mineral resource	Total mineral resource	6400000	Tonne	1.09
Olympic Dam	🔗	JORC mineral resource	Total mineral resource	11320000000	Tonne	0.71



South Australia Drill Core Reference Library

Hosts geological drill core and samples recovered from over **130 years** of exploration for minerals and energy resources.

→ **Opportunities to uncover future copper and critical minerals resources**



PRIF Integrated Mining Consortium

Next Generation Resource modelling:

- in situ sensing
- Cross-borehole geometallurgy
- Data integration
- Near real-time model updating

Mill optimisation:

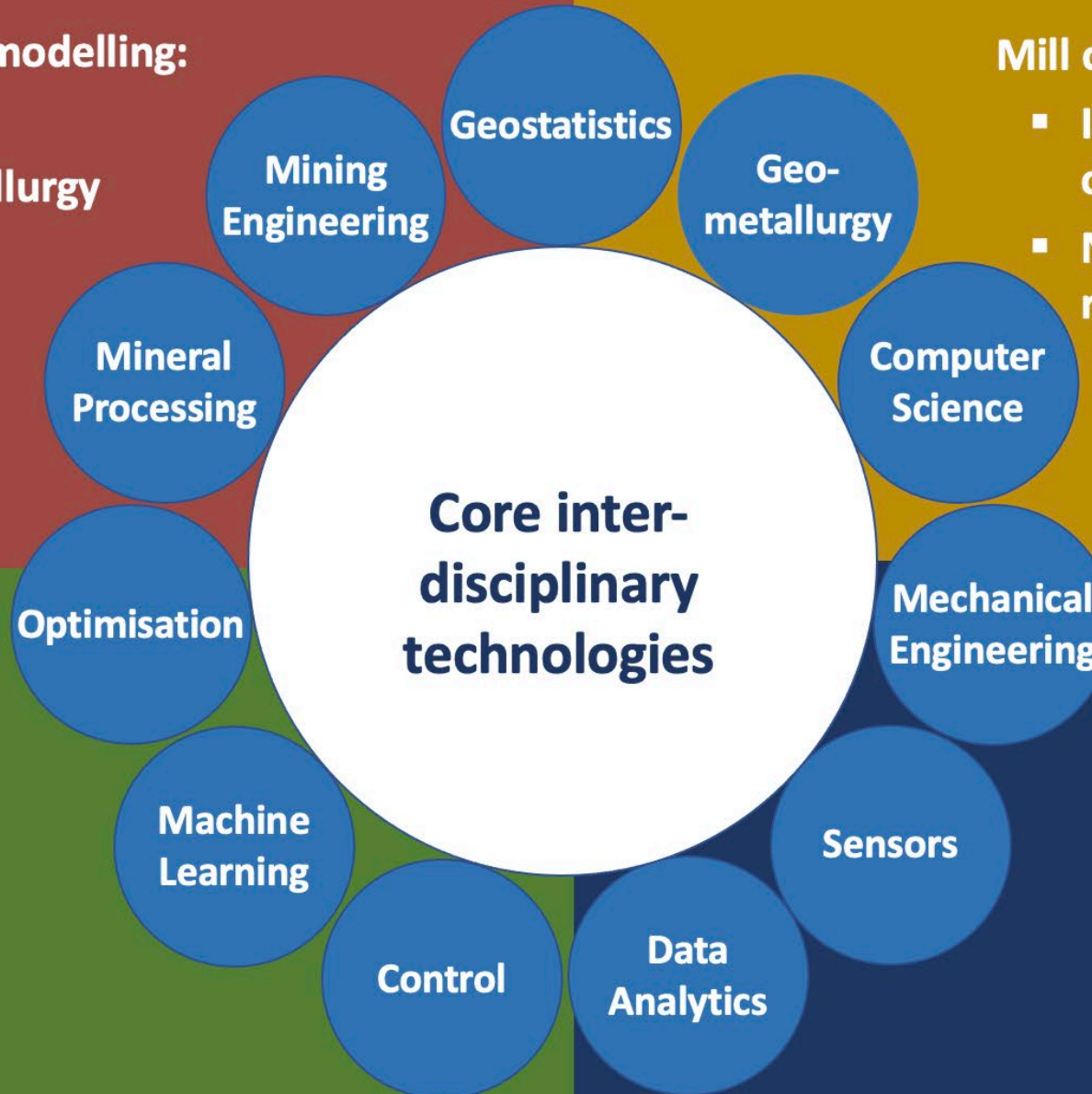
- Increase certainty and control on mill feed
- Near real-time stockpile reconciliation.
 - Maximise recovery

Mine to stockpile optimisation:

- Drill and blast
- Load and haul
- Run of mine stockpile
- Stockpile reclamation

Concentrator:

- Blend strategies
- Maximise metal in concentrate
- Maximise recovery of uranium in tails leach



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Research and industry partners



Powered by BHP

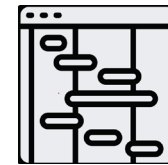


Digital transformation

How will mining and exploration regulation system benefit industry?

MERS will:

- provide industry with the ability to monitor application progress and assessment timeframes
- allow industry to track critical regulatory dates and manage reporting requirements
- reduce assessment and approval timeframes
- provide tenement holders with account management functionality
- enable community to more easily access publicly available information.



-  Solar & Wind
-  Copper
-  Magnetite Iron Ore
-  Port Facilities
-  Smelters & Steelworks
-  Northern Water



Company Activity

Olympic Dam – BHP investigating two-stage smelter to expand production

Kanmantoo – Hillgrove Resources successfully commissioned processing facility, producing copper concentrate in 2024

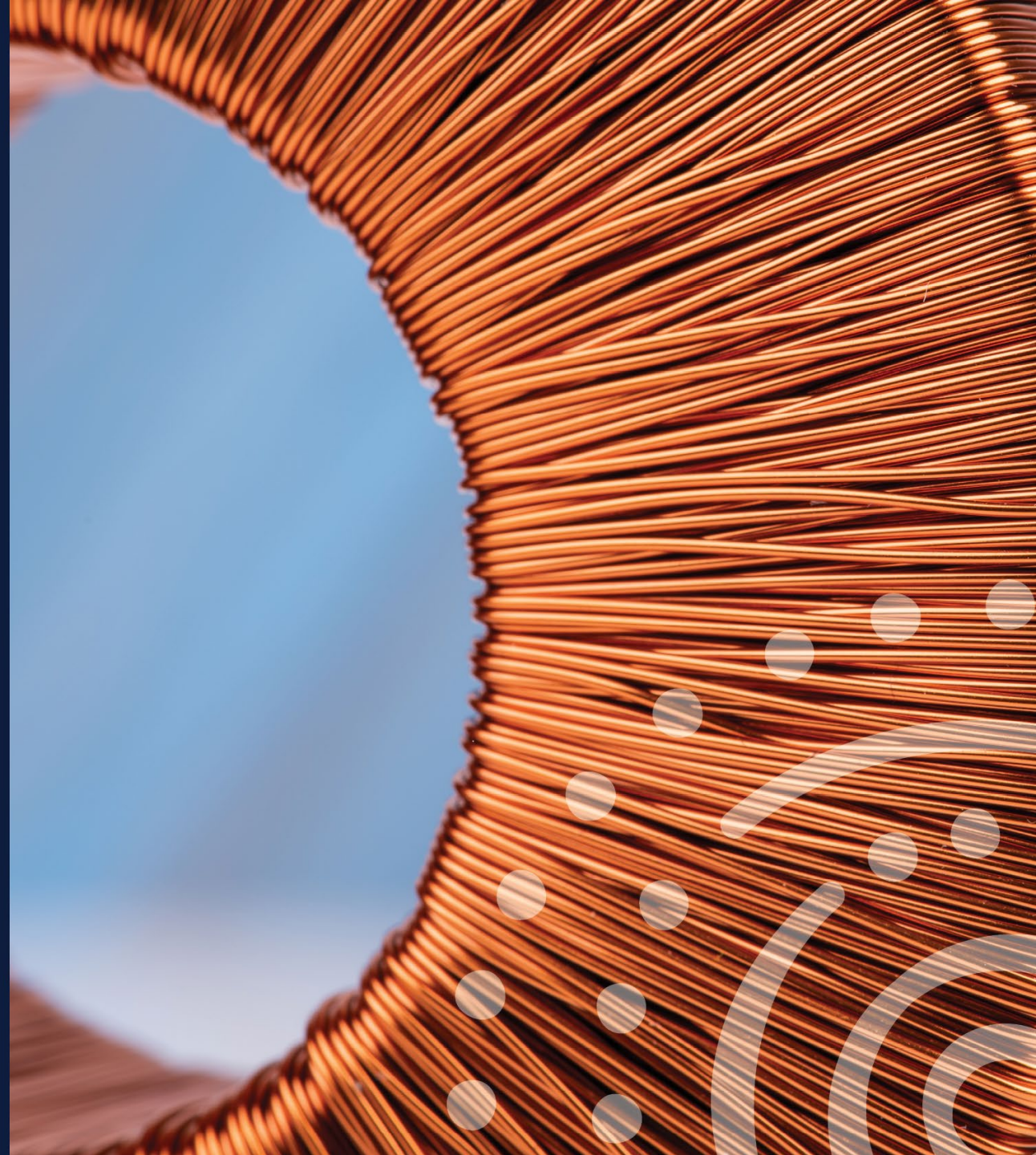
Selected developing projects

- Hillside – Rex Minerals
- Kalkaroo – Havilah Resources, approved
- Oak Dam – BHP, resource definition
- Elizabeth Creek – Coda Minerals
- Kapunda – Enviro Copper



SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S COPPER STRATEGY

Creating more value from copper
while powering the world's
clean energy and technology
transformation



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