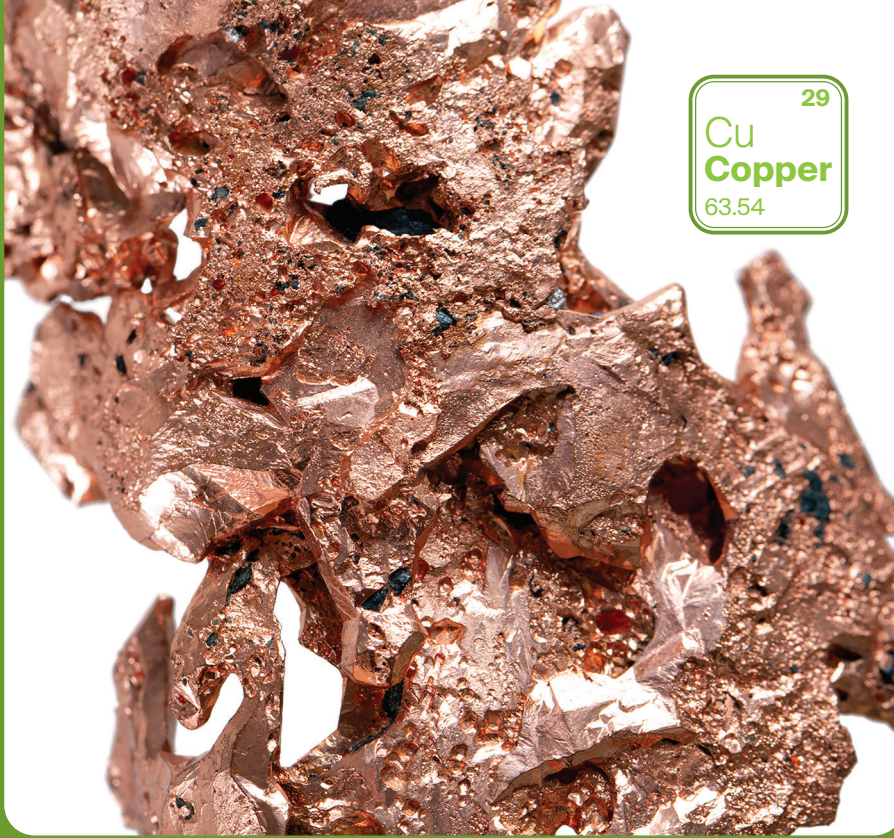




Government  
of South Australia  
Department for  
Energy and Mining



# South Australia's Copper Advantage

*Powering the world's clean energy transformation – with abundant copper resources, world-leading renewable energy and vibrant partnerships.*

## WHY SOUTH AUSTRALIA?

- **Australia's #1 copper state** – home to **68% of the nation's known copper reserves**.
- **Proven mining track record** – long-life operations underpinned by innovation and a strong regulatory framework.
- **Global-scale output** – in 2024, SA produced **323,479 tonnes of copper** – enough to power **3.4 million EVs or 70,000 wind turbines**.
- **Premier exploration destination** – extensive precompetitive data, advanced geoscience tools, and the world-class **Drill Core Library**.
- **Clean energy edge** – 75% wind and solar, firmed by battery and gas, enabling miners to harness low-emissions electricity.
- **Copper across the supply chain** – smelting capability, transforming operations and value-added partnerships.
- **Pioneering science & innovation** – a hub for next-generation mining and advanced manufacturing.

## MOMENTUM

South Australia's copper industry is creating more value than ever before – powering global clean energy and technology.

- **Copper is our #1 export** – record export value of **\$4.36 bn** (more than double a decade ago).
- **Exploration on the rise** – investment has surged past **\$204m p.a.**
- **Leading discoveries** – in 2024, **90% of Australia's newly announced maiden copper resources** came from South Australia, including **Oak Dam and Kanmantoo underground**.

## WORLD-CLASS DATA AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

- The **Geological Survey of South Australia** has been central to discoveries like Olympic Dam.
- **New in 2025: South Australian Discovery Mapping** – an interactive, digital-first geological mapping platform.
  - Rich story maps, digital explanatory notes, and SARIG integration.
  - Beginning with the **Gawler Craton**, expanding to Olympic Copper-Gold Province and Eyre Peninsula.
  - A five-year GSSA innovation transforming how exploration is done.

## EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES

The South Australian Government is backing copper expansion through:

- **Upcoming acreage releases** in the prospective Northern Gawler Craton.
- **Northern Water Project** – working towards a sustainable water supply for industry.
- **Upper Spencer Gulf Workforce Plan** – including a **Jobs & Skills Hub**.
- **Industry Capability Network** – driving local content and partnerships.
- Strong links with **energy transmission networks** and export pathways.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN Copper Occurrences

