

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES, GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

1967/15



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PROTECTION OF MINERAL EXPORTS IN VALUE

FOR YEARS 1966-67 TO 1971-72

by

THE MINERAL ECONOMIC SECTION

OF THE MINERAL RESOURCES BRANCH

The information contained in this report has been obtained by the Department of National Development as part of the policy of the Commonwealth Government to assist in the exploration and development of mineral resources. It may not be published in any form or use in a company prospectus or statement without the permission in writing of the Director, Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics.

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The Projection is based on reports, statements, contracts etc. made known to the Mineral Economics Section up to February, 1967.

Prices of metals and mineral commodities taken into consideration are either contract prices or prices ruling at the time of making the Projection or otherwise stated.

In certain cases export figures have been reached taking into consideration domestic production and estimated consumption.

The export availability of refined metals is based generally on production capacity.

Projection of Mineral Exports

(\$'000,000)

	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Aluminium (a)	22.0	64.5	75.5	94.5	97.9	109.0
Copper (b)	26.8	37.0	54.7	49.0	59.4	54.0
Iron Ore (c)	42.0	72.0	117.0	144.0	176.0	195.0
Lead (d)	80.3	93.0	98.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mineral Sands (f)	35.4	38.0	39.5	45.5	46.0	47.0
Silver (g)	2.9	6.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Tin (h)	3.7	4.0	6.0	7.0	6.5	6.0
Tungsten (k)	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Zinc (l)	51.2	50.3	59.8	64.8	64.8	64.8
Other rocks, ores, metals etc. (m)	24.5	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0
Coal (n)	77.6	100.0	110.0	114.0	114.0	114.0
Mineral Oil (o)	25.0	20.0	20.0	25.0	20.0	20.0
Total	395.6	515.8	620.5	683.8	724.6	749.8

Explanatory Notes

- (a) Includes bauxite, alumina and primary refined metal.
- (b) Includes concentrates, blister, primary refined metal, matte and precipitate. Estimates are made on the assumption that companies currently exporting will continue to do so, and that Mount Isa and Cobar will continue to supply the domestic market.
- (c) Projected value refers to signed contracts only.
- (d) Includes concentrates, bullion, primary refined metal and slag. It is expected that BHAS will operate at capacity level and that domestic consumption of refined metal will remain at about the present level (increased local demand being met from secondary sources).
- (f) Includes rutile, zircon and ilmenite.
- (g) Treasury discontinued purchase of domestic silver at close of 1966, thus making available about 5 million oz. per annum for export. Expanded mine production of lead could increase this availability to about 6 million oz. per annum.
- (h) Includes tin concentrates only; the value added would be increased significantly if tin was exported in its refined form, but as yet, there has been no official move in this direction.
- (k) It is assumed that prices will settle at the equivalent of about Stg. 300/- per l.t.w. and that Tasmanian producers will produce at capacity and that all domestic production will be exported.
- (l) Includes concentrates, refined primary metal and slag. Significant increases in domestic production capacity of refined zinc ore scheduled for the next few years. At Port Pirie production of refined zinc from slag at an annual rate of 30-40,000 tons is expected in 1968 and capacity at Cockle Creek is to be expanded by at least 20,000 tons per year in 1969.
- (m) Other rocks etc. include industrial diamonds; natural abrasives n.e.i.; building and ornamental stones; clays; graphite; gypsum; lithium ores; magnesite; mica talc and non metallic rocks n.e.i.

Other ores include : iron pyrite; manganese; beryllium; tantalum and niobium; monazite; platinum; ores and concentrates n.e.i. and residues and wastes.

Other metals include aluminium waste and scrap; aluminium wrought; copper scrap; tin and tin alloy; lead - antimony alloy; tin; cadmium; platinum.

Include also opal and other gemstones and nickel.
- (n) Projected value refers to signed contracts only.
- (o) Data supplied by Fuel Branch, Department of National Development.