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## Final Report of the Select Committee on Land Access

South Australia's Select Committee on Land Access delivered its final report today on the Inquiry into the laws that apply to mineral exploration and mining under the State's Mining Act, including a range of recommendations.

"The ability to access land in a timely, cost-effective manner, with as much certainty as possible, is critical to mineral exploration and mining," said the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies' (AMEC) Chief Executive Officer, Warren Pearce.

The report recognises the importance of both mining and agriculture to South Australia, and the widespread benefits they deliver to South Australians. To continue delivering these benefits into the future, competing interests need to be balanced.

"Importantly, the Committee has acknowledged that introducing a right of veto over land access would not be appropriate, it is hoped that this will finally put this issue to rest."

"However, many of the recommendations essentially pre-judge the effectiveness of recent legislative reform."

"South Australia's Mining Act reforms came into operation on 1 January this year, following extensive consultation, to provide a much-needed update to a 48-year old Act.

The consultation process involved over 20 stakeholder working groups, with direct engagement with over 500 individuals and over 70 organisations, facilitated by the South Australian Government over an 18-month period.

"In developing these substantial changes, legislation frameworks from around Australia were looked at in detail to ensure best practice was introduced in South Australia."

"One of the many changes was increasing the notice of entry period for entry to land from 30 to 42 days, providing greater lead time for land users."

"Now that new legislation is in place, the mining industry will continue to work with government to develop a new code of conduct for exploration and land access."

"Other suggested recommendations, such as introducing a Mining Ombudsman and developing standalone planning legislation to protect agricultural areas, pre-judge the performance of new legislation."

"The new legislation needs to be given sufficient time to be tested before a meaningful review of its effectiveness can be undertaken."

"Industry remains committed to working with government and other stakeholders to ensure that engagement with landowners respects their needs and rights, and supports a co-operative approach," said Mr Pearce.

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