PlanSA

FACT SHEET

Olympic Dam Smelter and Refinery Expansion Project – Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

About the development

The Smelter Refinery Expansion Project seeks to increase smelting and refinery capacity at BHP's Olympic Dam mine and production site.

The Project comprises four main components:

- expansion of, and additions to, the existing smelter and refinery to enable total production of up to 650,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of copper plus associated products (including gold, silver and uranium oxide) and 1.7m to 1.9m tpa of 98% sulphuric acid; and
- changes to the production process, including the installation of a new primary flash-smelting furnace (FSF) to produce copper matte; conversion of the existing direct-to-blister flash furnace (DBF) to a flash-converting furnace (FCF); and
- the addition of an acid plant of similar nature and scale to the existing acid plant, and subsequent upgrade of the existing acid plant; and the expansion of the electro-refinery and precious-metals refinery (PMR) facilities to produce cathode copper, gold, and silver, along with (and as outlined in the declaration notice); and
- a range of associated services and mine infrastructure will also be installed and/or constructed on the mine site to support the SRE project.

Please refer to the EIS for a complete description of the proposed works, including various supporting and enabling works to be undertaken.

About the Applicant

The project is being proposed by BHP Olympic Dam Corporation Pty Ltd.

Located 650 kilometres north-west of Adelaide, South Australia, Olympic Dam is part of BHP's copper portfolio. It's made up of underground and surface operations and is located on the traditional lands of the Kokatha people.

Development Assessment Process

BHP lodged a development application for the Smelter Refinery Expansion Project, which is being assessed as an Impact Assessed Development under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (PDI Act).

This is the most rigorous level of development assessment in South Australia and is reserved for projects that are of economic, social or environmental importance to the state. The assessment process is overseen by the Department for Housing and Urban Development (DHUD).

A fundamental requirement of this process is the preparation of an EIS.

The Smelter Refinery Expansion Project EIS has been prepared by BHP following early engagement with government agencies, councils, landholders, Traditional Owners, and community representatives.

As part of the assessment process, the EIS is now open for public consultation from 5 November 2026 to 17 December 2026, and we are seeking your feedback.

Role of Indenture Minister

The *Olympic Dam and Stuart Shelf Indenture* scheduled to the *Roxby Downs (Indenture Ratification) Act 1982*, as it applies in relation to the development application, substitutes the Minister for Energy and Mining (Indenture Minister) for both the State Planning Commission and the Minister for Planning in the impact assessed process under Part 7 Division 2 Subdivision 4 s.108-115 of the PDI Act.

This means that the Indenture Minister assumes the roles of both the State Planning Commission [in the setting of the Assessment Requirements and as the author of the Assessment Report, and the Minister for Planning (as the final decision maker on the proposal)].

The assessment process steps required remain the same as outlined by the PDI Act.

How to access the EIS

The EIS can be accessed online at plan.sa.gov.au and yoursay.sa.gov.au.

Hard copies are available to view at:

- Department for Housing and Urban Development: Level 9, 83 Pirie Street, Adelaide (please call PlanSA on 1800 752 664 beforehand to confirm access and visitation arrangements)
- Roxby Downs Council Office at 6 Richardson Place, Roxby Downs
- Port Augusta City Council Civic Centre and Library at 4 Mackay Street, Port Augusta

To purchase a hard copy, please contact PlanSA on 1800 752 664.

Share your feedback on the EIS

You are invited to provide your feedback on the EIS. Your feedback can be provided in various ways:

- complete the survey on yoursay.sa.gov.au
- complete the online submission form on plan.sa.gov.au
- download a submission form from plan.sa.gov.au and email to spcreps@sa.gov.au (subject: Olympic Dam Smelter Refinery Expansion EIS Submission) or

- post to:

  Minister for Energy and Mining
  Attention: Robert Kleeman, Manager, Crown and Impact Assessment
  Planning and Building, Department for Housing and Urban Development
  GPO Box 1815, ADELAIDE SA 5001.

Upcoming information sessions

Join a community drop-in session or online information session with DHUD, DEM and BHP representatives to learn about the project and the impact assessment process.

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday 25 November 2026	11am to 1pm	Andamooka Community Hall, School Road, Andamooka
Wednesday 25 November 2026	3pm to 6pm	Roxby Downs Pool, 1-15 Richardson Place, Roxby Downs
Thursday 26 November 2026	8am to 10am	Dunes Café, 1-15 Richardson Place, Roxby Downs
Friday 27 November 2026	11am to 1pm	Wharfland Plaza, Tassie Street, Port Augusta
Monday 30 November 2026	6pm to 7pm	Online. Pre-registration is required at plansaevents.eventbrite.com.au

Next steps

The consultation closes on **Thursday 17 December 2026**. All submissions will be provided to BHP for its consideration and review.

BHP will then prepare a Response Document, which outlines the feedback received, addresses issues raised during consultation, and outlines any changes to the project.

The Indenture Minister will then consider the whole proposal, including the EIS, council and state agency comments and public feedback, and prepare an Assessment Report.

This Assessment Report will then inform the decision-making process.

At the conclusion of the assessment process, all submissions will be published on the PlanSA website, with personal details such as names and email address redacted.

Translation services

If you require translation services to help you understand this information, please contact:

- Australian Government Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS): Phone 13 14 50
- South Australian Government Interpreting and Translating Centre (ITC): 1800 280 203.