

## Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP

Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy

Wednesday, 22 February 2017

### **Administrator appointed to Roxby Council**

Geoff Whitbread has been appointed Administrator of the Roxby Council to continue the rollout of reforms to the governance of this important regional centre.

Mr Whitbread has a long career in local government and has been acting Administrator during a review into the governance practices of the council.

The appointment, which has been undertaken in consultation with mine operators BHP Billiton, allows the recruitment process to begin for a chief executive officer for the Roxby Council.

### **Background**

The South Australian Government supported a recommendation that the roles of Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of Roxby Council should be separated to increase accountability.

Under the new structure, a chief executive officer will be employed by the Roxby Council to carry out the day-to-day operations.

To ensure greater transparency, the Administrator has begun to hold public meetings that allow the local community to have greater input into decisions made by the Council.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy Tom Koutsantonis**

I am pleased to appoint Geoff Whitbread as Administrator so he can continue to carry out the reforms to the way the Roxby Downs community is served by its Council.

Geoff has a wealth of experience in local government and his knowledge and expertise will help the Roxby Council to continue to support and serve its community.

I look forward to the next stage of these reforms – the recruitment of a new Chief Executive Officer to deliver the Roxby Downs community's expectations for effective local government.

### **Quotes attributable to BHP Billiton Asset President Olympic Dam Jacqui McGill**

The governance reforms under Geoff's leadership have already delivered a more engaged Roxby community, who have been encouraged by his efforts to be transparent and more collaborative.

Roxby Downs is an incredible community and a strong governance model, combined with Geoff's leadership and extensive local government experience, will ensure it continues to grow and remains a great place to live and work.

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We look forward to continuing to work closely with the Roxby Council and local community.

**Quote attributable to Roxby Downs Administrator Geoff Whitbread**

I am delighted to be appointed Administrator under the new governance structure and to continue to work with the Roxby Downs community to strengthen confidence in their local government.