

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

MINISTER AND PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

The Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP is the responsible portfolio Minister. The portfolio is responsible for improving the strength, competitiveness and sustainability of the resources, energy and tourism industries; providing geoscientific research and geospatial information; the delivery of health and safety regulation for the offshore petroleum industry; and international and domestic positioning of Australia as a quality tourism destination.

The portfolio comprises:

- The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (a Department of State under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (FMA Act)) ;
- Geoscience Australia (a prescribed agency under the FMA Act);
- The National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (a statutory agency established under the provisions of the *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* and, for the purposes of governance arrangements, a prescribed agency under the FMA Act); and
- Tourism Australia (a statutory agency established under the *Tourism Australia Act 2004* and subject to the provisions of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act)).

The Department plays an important role in assisting the Government to achieve its objectives by providing high quality advice and services to achieve improved strength, competitiveness and sustainability of the resources, energy and tourism industries. The Department advises the Australian Government on the impact of policies in the resources, energy and tourism sectors. In addition, the Department administers a number of programs, targeted to achieve improved outcomes for industry and Australia. The Department works closely with state and territory governments and the private sector, including major corporations and business associations, to achieve these goals.

Geoscience Australia is financially independent of the Department and exists within the portfolio structure as a prescribed agency. Geoscience Australia is Australia's national geoscience research and geospatial information agency. Geoscience Australia is a world leader in providing first class geoscientific information and knowledge that enables the Australian Government and community to make informed decisions about the exploitation of resources, the management of the environment, the safety of critical

infrastructure and the resultant wellbeing of all Australians. Geoscience Australia also encompasses the Office of Spatial Data Management which coordinates the implementation of the Australian Government's policy on spatial data access and pricing.

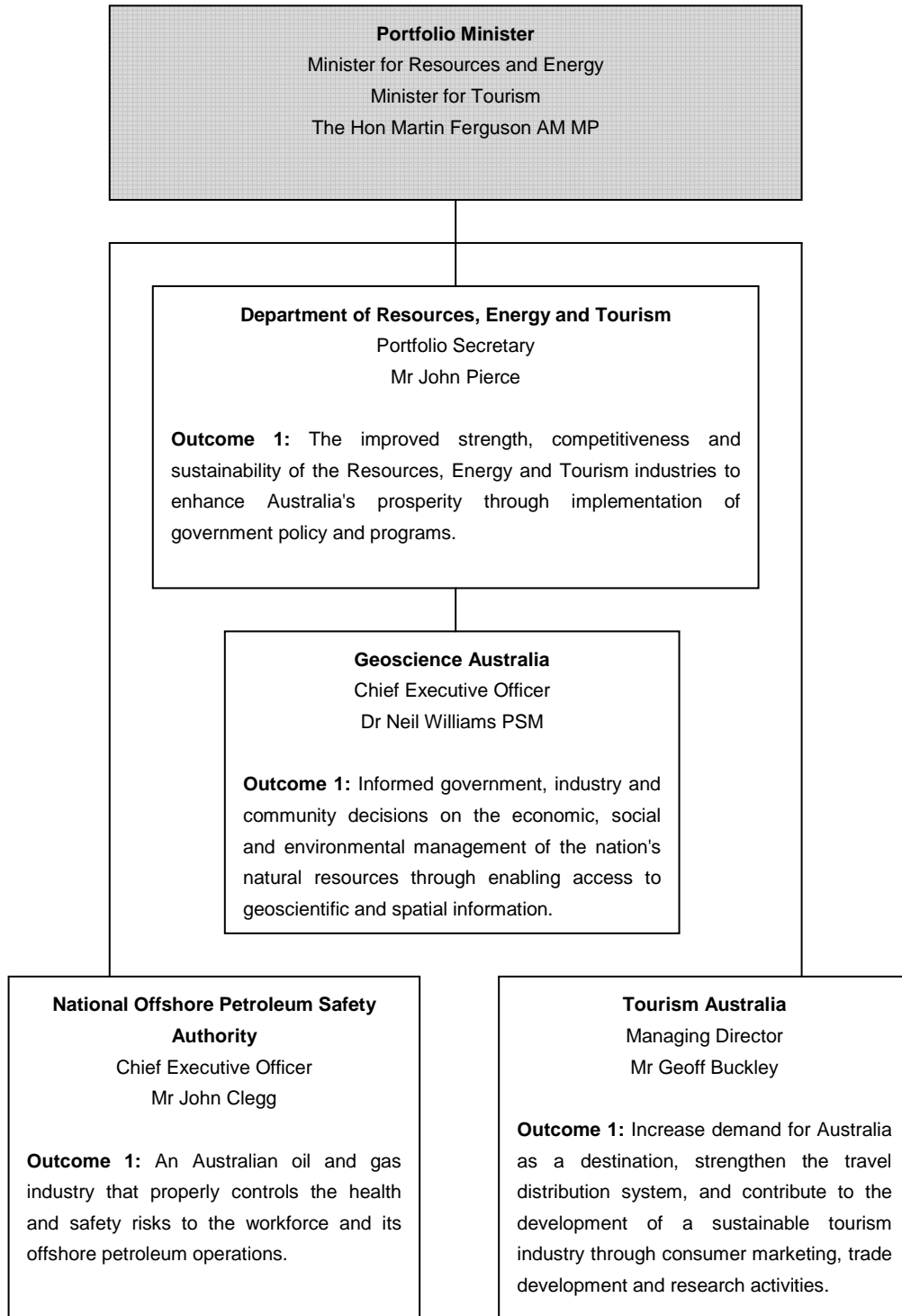
The National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSA) is responsible for the delivery of world class health and safety regulation for the Australian offshore petroleum industry. In addition, NOPSA is responsible for the promotion of the occupational health and safety of persons engaged in offshore petroleum operations in Australian Government, state and territory coastal waters. The primary objectives for NOPSA include: improving safety outcomes across the Australian offshore petroleum industry; ensuring health and safety regulation of the offshore petroleum industry is provided to standards that are equal to the best in the world; and reducing the regulatory burden on the offshore petroleum industry, which operates across multiple jurisdictions, by delivering a consistent and comprehensive health and safety regime.

Tourism Australia works with state and territory tourism bodies to help increase the economic benefits to Australia from tourism, through influencing people to travel to, and throughout, Australia, including for events, and fostering a sustainable, quality-focussed tourism industry in Australia.

More comprehensive information on activities undertaken by the Resources, Energy and Tourism portfolio is available from the following web sites:

- Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism
<http://www.ret.gov.au>
- Geoscience Australia
<http://www.ga.gov.au>
- National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority
<http://www.nopsa.gov.au>
- Tourism Australia
<http://www.tourism.australia.com>

Figure 1: Resources, Energy and Tourism portfolio structure and outcomes



PORTFOLIO RESOURCES

Table 1 shows the total resources provided to the portfolio in the 2009-10 budget year, by agency.

Table 1: Portfolio resources 2009-10

	Appropriation			Receipts ¹	Total
	Bill No. 1 \$'000	Bill No. 2 \$'000	Special \$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism					
Administered appropriations	912,645	-	16,560	1,844	931,049
Departmental appropriations	71,003	-	-	10,788	81,791
Total:	983,648	-	16,560	12,632	1,012,840
Geoscience Australia					
Administered appropriations	20	-	-	1,070	1,090
Departmental appropriations	130,058	-	-	38,861	168,919
Total:	130,078	-	-	39,931	170,009
National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority					
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriations	-	-	-	13,352	13,352
Total:	-	-	-	13,352	13,352
Tourism Australia					
Administered appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriations	136,686	-	-	-	136,686
Total:	136,686	-	-	-	136,686
Resources available within Portfolio:					1,332,887

1. This includes receipts from special accounts