

Bargo Coking Coal Project (N.S.W.)

- BHP-CAIL-Peko Wallsend, equal partners. Coking coal for export. Underground; 1.5 million TPY. Sinking shaft. Total lead-time for construction is five years. Cost \$75 million. Exploratory shaft, 1980.

COAL LIQUEFACTION

Qld-Victoria-NSW State governments

- \$5 million study being prepared by West Germans (and half financed by the FRG Government) to determine feasibility of establishing commercial coal liquefaction plant in each of three states. To be completed mid-1981.

Kobe Steel, Mitsubishi Chemical, Nissho-Iwai

- to construct pilot plant with daily capacity of 50 tons Victoria brown coal.

Millmerran Liquefaction Project (Qld)

- AMAX Mitsui Millmerran. \$4 billion. Non-coking coal with liquefaction potential. Mine, liquefaction plant and associated facilities for coal consumption of five million TPY. Will use SASOL technology to produce 60,000 bbls/year transportation fuel. Feasibility study being prepared by Fluor, to be completed mid-1981.

6. COPPER

Copper was the first mineral mined in Australia (1841) and is still of considerable importance. The major mines are the Mount Isa Mine in Queensland, which, in 1978, treated about five million tons of copper; and the Mt. Lyell Mine in Tasmania. Other mines are located in Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia.

PROJECTS

Roxby Downs Copper/Uranium Project (S.A.)

- Western Mining Corp-BHP. Exceptionally large copper-uranium body (with some gold) centered at Olympic Dam (value of minerals estimated at \$65 billion). A substantive three-year evaluation program is planned for entire area starting at end of 1979 (\$50 million). Stage II would be development of mine, smelter, refinery, leaching plant, etc., worth \$1.3 to \$2 billion for start-up in 1980. It will be a high-capacity underground mine and might require up to 30 per cent offshore equipment. Feasibility study being prepared by BHP. There is substantial political pressure to proceed.