



The Hon Ian Macfarlane MP
Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

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13 MAR 2007

Professor Ian H Sloan
Scientia Professor
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Dear Professor Sloan 


Thank you for your letter of 13 February 2007 concerning the Chilean-Australian Mining Workshop, Santiago.

I am pleased to see a strong Australian presence at the *Workshop on Rock Mechanics and Strategic Planning in Mining* in Chile. I am sure it will provide an excellent opportunity for researchers and mining engineers to exchange ideas and experiences. I also believe that signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Mathematics and Statistics of Complex Systems (MASCOS) and Centre for Mathematical Modelling (CMM) on *Mathematics of Key Technologies and Complex Systems* at the workshop will ensure that our sound relationship with Chile's mining sector is maintained.

I find it very encouraging to see collaboration in relation to mining activities between Chile and Australia, with Chile being one of our major Latin American trading partners. I look forward to hearing about the outcomes of the workshop and wish you well for any future events you conduct with Chile.

I have copied this letter to the Australian Ambassador to Chile, Mr Crispin Conroy, who I understand will attend the workshop and witness the signing of the MOU.

Yours sincerely



Ian Macfarlane