

## **MCA CODE OF CONDUCT: WORKING WITH GOVERNMENTS**

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The MCA represents the minerals industry to federal, state and territory governments in advocating pre-competitive or generic public policy for a socio-economic environment conducive to growth and prosperity.

The exchange of information and opinions is essential to enable informed decision-making by governments, the MCA and MCA member companies.

It is important that MCA staff members have open and constructive relationships with governments and their agencies, officials and personnel.

MCA staff members are required to:

- Comply with all applicable laws and regulations
- Respect the authority of governments
- Maintain honest relationships with governments
- Ensure that all information shared with governments is accurate and appropriate for the purpose.
- Not authorise, offer, give or promise anything of value directly or indirectly to a government official to influence official action
- Not attempt to obstruct the lawful collection of information, data, testimony or records by appropriately authorised government or regulatory officials or hinder the lawful and proper provision of such information by another employee.

In so doing the MCA voluntarily adheres (where applicable) to the 'Principles of engagement with Government representatives' outlined in the [Australian Government Lobbying Code of Conduct](#):

Lobbyists shall observe the following principles when engaging with Government representatives:

- a. lobbyists shall not engage in any conduct that is corrupt, dishonest or illegal, or unlawfully cause or threaten any detriment;
- b. lobbyists shall use all reasonable endeavours to satisfy themselves of the truth and accuracy of all statements and information provided by them to clients whom they represent, the wider public and Government representatives;
- c. lobbyists shall not make misleading, exaggerated or extravagant claims about, or otherwise misrepresent, the nature or extent of their access to Government representatives, members of political parties or to any other person;
- d. lobbyists shall keep strictly separate from their duties and activities as lobbyists any personal activity or involvement on behalf of a political party (noting that there are certain restrictions on registration at 10.1(c) below); and
- e. when making initial contact with Government representatives with the intention of conducting lobbying activities, lobbyists who are proposing to conduct lobbying activities on behalf of clients must inform the Government representatives:
  - i. that they are lobbyists or employees of, or contractors or persons engaged by, lobbyists;
  - ii. whether they are currently listed on the Register of Lobbyists;

the name of their relevant client or clients, including a client whose identity is not required to be made public under clause 5.2; and the nature of the matters that their clients wish them to raise with Government representatives.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Note: As one of the 'non-profit associations or organisations constituted to represent the interests of their members that are not endorsed as deductible gift recipients' the MCA is specifically precluded from the definition of 'lobbyist' in the Code of Conduct.