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**Title:**

Press release: Whyalla Ore Plant

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN.WHYALLA ORE PLANT.

8.6.72

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, announced today that the Directors of The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited have approved in principle the expenditure of \$14,030,000 for the establishment of a magnetite plant at Whyalla to treat low grade iron ores. It is estimated that approximately 200 men will be employed to construct the plant and, after commissioning, 60 men over and above the present labour force, will be employed to operate and maintain the plant.

These low grade ores which will come from the Middleback Ranges cannot otherwise be used economically as blast furnace feed.

Sufficient low grade ores and jaspilites are available to feed the plant for well in excess of one hundred years. The construction of a magnetite plant guarantees the future supply of feed for the Whyalla Steelworks.

The plant which is expected to be commissioned late 1974 will treat 2 million tons per year of low grade ore to produce 1.25 million tons per year of artificial magnetite concentrate, Mr. Dunstan said.

After carrying out extensive pilot plant work at Whyalla and overseas it was confirmed that a high grade concentrate containing approximately 66% iron will be produced from the low grade ores in the commercial plant.

The plant will be built on a site adjacent to the Whyalla pellet plant on land reclaimed from the sea. The concentrate will be blended with iron ore fines and converted into iron ore pellets in the pellet plant.

Site work for the plant will commence shortly.

The plant had been designed to minimise dust and water pollution.