OLYMPIC DAM
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
The Project
Macmahon was awarded the contract to carry out underground mine development works for BHP at the Olympic Dam site.

The Olympic Dam project is located at Roxby Downs, 560 kilometres north of Adelaide in South Australia, and is a large poly-metallic mine predominately mining copper, uranium and gold. It has a proven and probable ore reserve of 717 million tonnes grading 1.7% copper and 0.5kg/tonne uranium oxide.

Olympic Dam is the sixth largest known copper ore body, fifth largest gold ore body and largest uranium ore body in the world. It also contains significant quantities of silver and stands as the largest underground mine in Australia. The Olympic Dam operations comprise a fully integrated underground mine and above ground metallurgical complex.

Macmahon’s initial contract involved 10,091 metres of underground development and associated works. An extension of this initial contract was awarded and Macmahon has now carried out 33 kilometres of underground lateral development including ground support.

In July 2009, Macmahon was awarded a two year contract extension by BHP at the Olympic Dam site and a further one year extension was granted in July 2011.

In October 2011, Macmahon was awarded a three year contract with a potential to extend for a further one year. This contract involved underground mine development works, including shotcreting, cablebolting and other associated works with an estimated value of more than $200 million. The contract includes 35,000 metres of lateral development and associated cablebolting and shotcreting.