

# THE IMPORTANCE OF MINING TO CAIRNS

PAST : PRESENT : FUTURE



ADDRESS BY

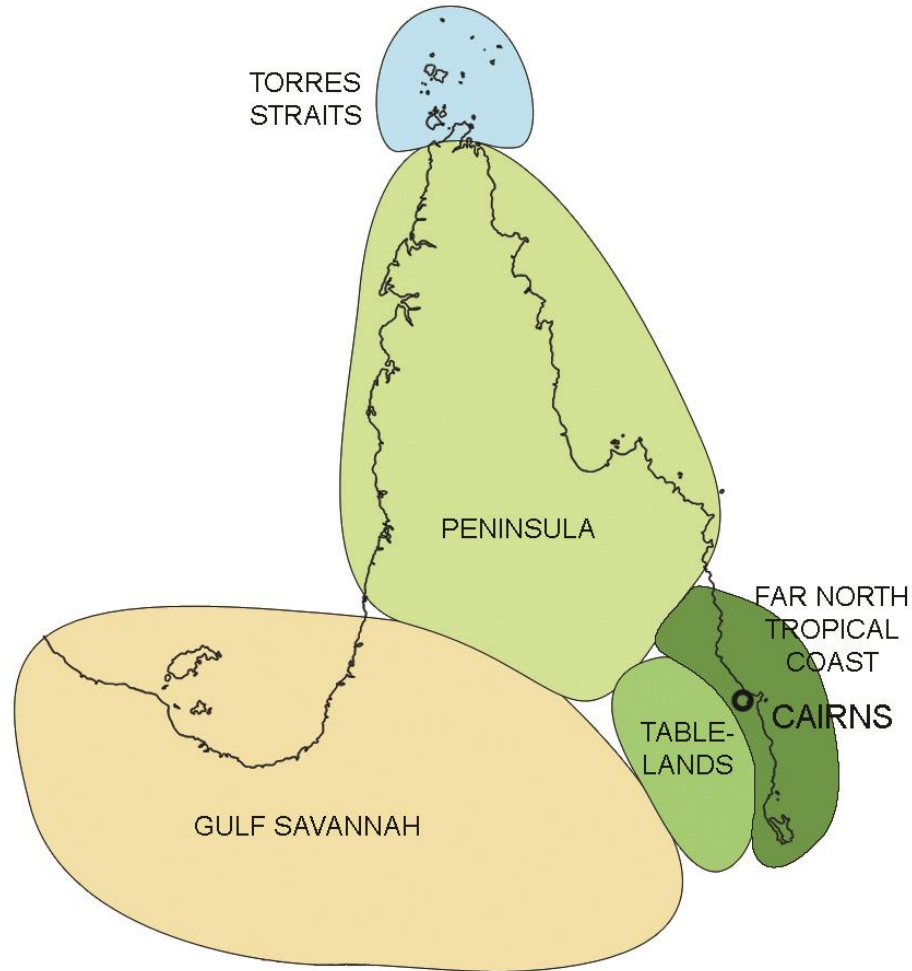
WS (Bill) Cummings | Cummings Economics



12th June 2019

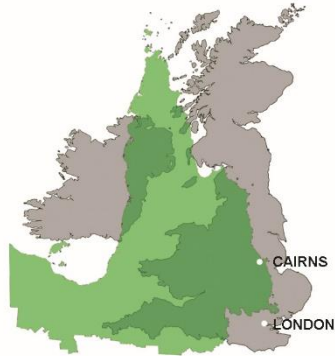
# CAIRNS REGION

## TROPICAL : FAR NORTH QLD



# AREA COMPARED

FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND  
BRITISH ISLES



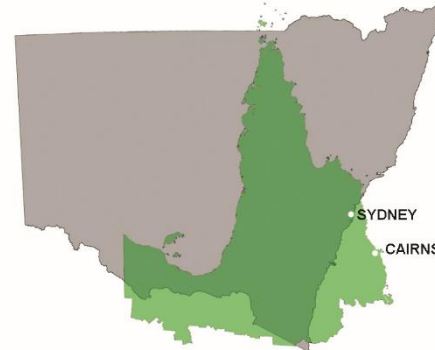
FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND  
CALIFORNIA



FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND  
VICTORIA



FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND  
NEW SOUTH WALES



# DEEP INTO THE TROPICS

STH MEXICO & CENTRAL AMERICA - CARIBBEAN

WEST AFRICA - ETHIOPIA

INDIA - INDO CHINA - PHILIPPINES

BRAZIL

ANGOLA

MADAGASCAR

NORTH AUSTRALIA

CAIRNS

20°N

10°N

10°S

20°S



# MINING LEADS THE WAY

CAIRNS ESTABLISHED AS A PORT IN 1876  
FOR NEWLY DISCOVERED MINERAL FIELDS  
(ALMOST 100 YEARS AFTER SYDNEY)



# MINING LEADS THE WAY

RAILWAY OVER THE ESCARTMENT  
COMMENCED IN 1886



MINING A LEADING FORCE UNTIL 1920's

# OTHER BASE INDUSTRIES DEVELOP

- **TIMBER INDUSTRIES**
- **MARINE INDUSTRIES**
- **AGRICULTURE**

**SUGAR ON THE COAST**

**MIXED FARMING ON THE TABLELANDS**

# PASTORAL INDUSTRY PROBLEMS

## MINING TOWNS DECLINE

### DEPRESSION & SECOND WORLD WAR



# MINING LOW POINT IN THE ECONOMY

## GROSS VALUE OF PRIMARY PRODUCTION IN 1957-58

INDUSTRY	GROSS VALUE	%
CROPS	\$43,604,000	74%
LIVESTOCK	\$8,976,000	15%
FORESTRY	\$4,084,000	7%
FISHERIES	\$936,000	2%
MINING	\$1,504,000	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,104,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

# POST WAR SURGE OF GROWTH

## POPULATION GROWTH

	<b>CAIRNS CITY</b>	<b>REGION</b>
1947 Census	16,644	71,606
2018 Est. Res Pop'n.	165,525	291,885

# FROM 1960's

## THE ECONOMY REALLY STARTED TO FIRE

### RESOURCE BASE DEVELOPS UNDER INFLUENCE

- GROWING GLOBAL MARKETS
- TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENTS
- TECHNOLOGY SUITED TO THE TROPICS
- SUCCESS BREEDS SUCCESS

EARNINGS FROM REST OF AUSTRALIA AND OVERSEAS RISE STRONGLY

# AGRICULTURE

## THREE BIG BREAKTHROUGHS

- COMMERCIAL CANE HARVESTERS / BULK HANDLING
- TROPICAL (BRAHMAN) CATTLE BREEDS
- TRANSPORT & ROAD DEVELOPMENTS  
UNLOCKS SUPERIOR POTENTIAL TO GROW TROPICAL &  
OFF SEASON FRUIT & VEGETABLE

## TINAROO DAM EXPANSION

FISHERIES : LARGE PRAWN RESOURCES DISCOVERED

FORRESTRIES : CARIBBEAN PINE

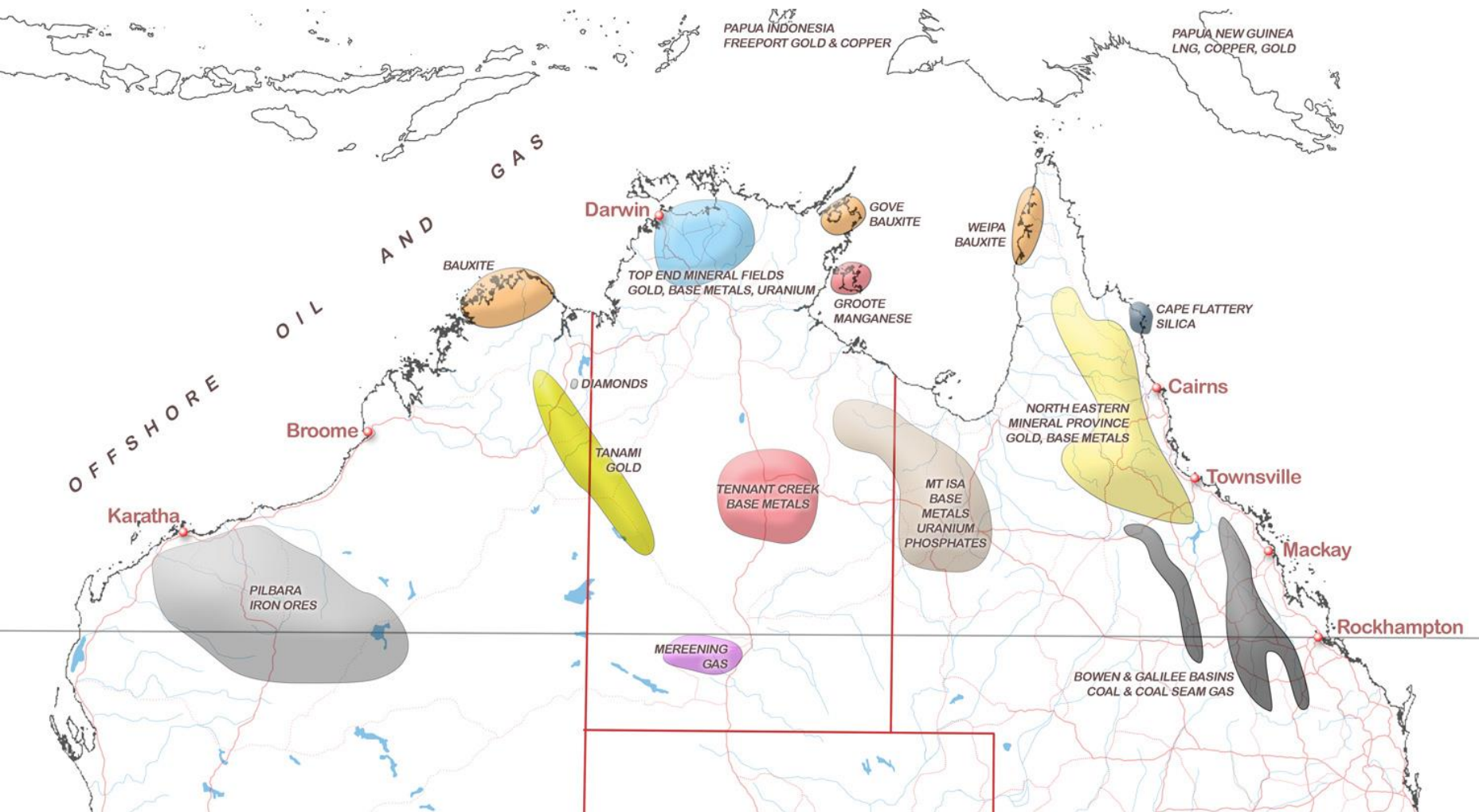
**TODAY PRIMARY INDUSTRIES ABOUT \$2BN PER ANNUM**

# TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

POTENTIAL OF WORLD CLASS COMBINATION AND  
QUALITY OF TOURISM RESOURCES REALISED

TODAY EARNING ABOUT \$3BN PER ANNUM

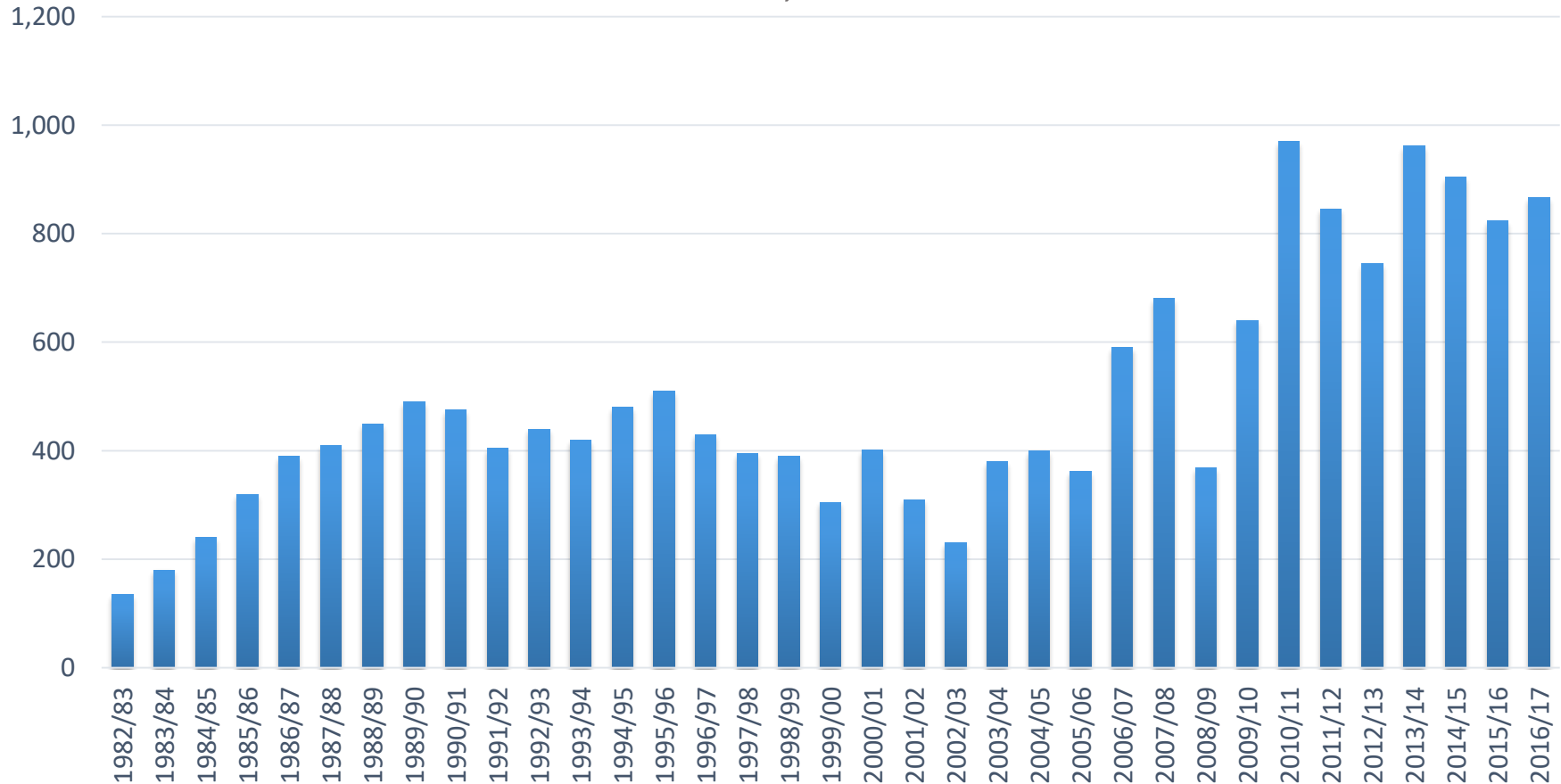
# MINING ROLE IN UPSURGE SINCE 1960's



# MINING PRODUCTION

## A CONSTANT BUT VARIABLE FACTOR

VALUE OF MINING PRODUCTION, TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND



Source: QLD Department of Mining & Energy.

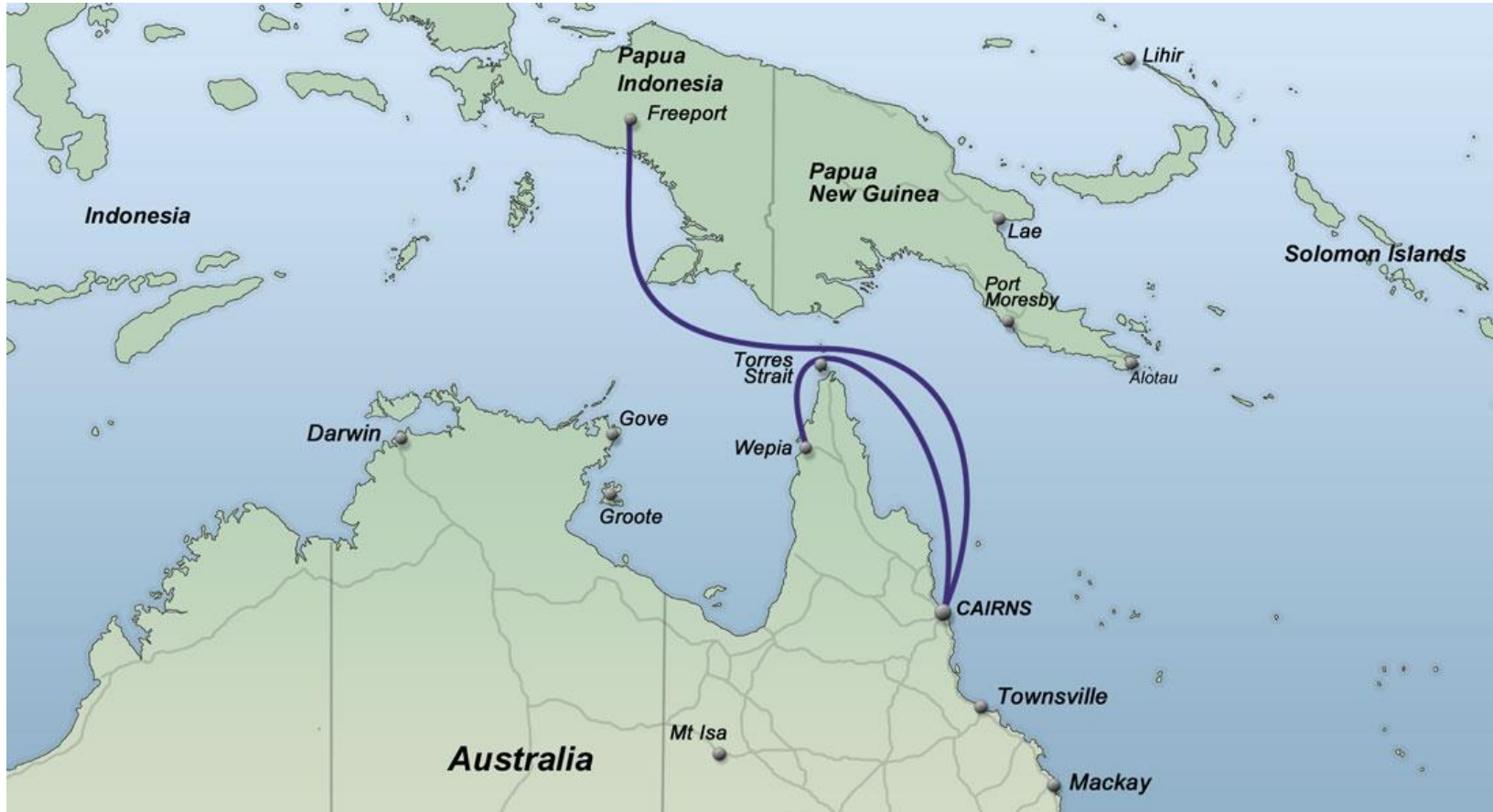


# MINERAL PRODUCTION & SALES 2016/17

	PRODUCTION \$M	SALES \$M
BAUXITE	\$1,195	\$808
SILICA	\$52	\$51
GOLD	\$3	\$3
OTHER	\$4	\$4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,254</b>	<b>\$866</b>

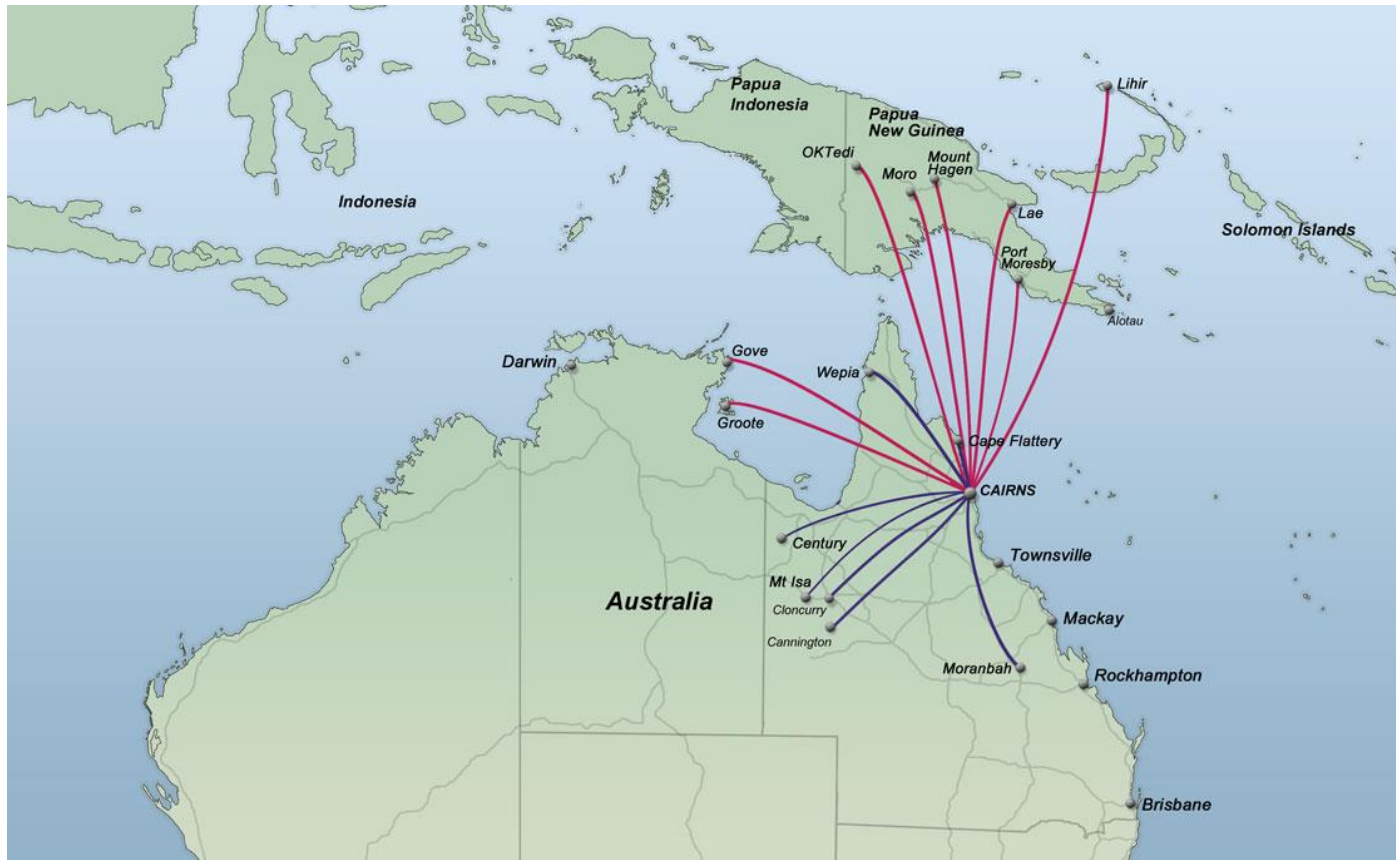


# MINING SUPPLY GENERAL CARGO SERVICE OUT OF CAIRNS



Note: Since preparation of this map, the shipping service Cairns Freeport has ceased.

# MINING RELATED AIR SERVICES OUT OF CAIRNS



**WORKFORCE FIFO, CORPORATE TRAFFIC, SERVICES  
& CONTRACTOR TRANSFERS, FREIGHT**

# THE FUTURE



**WORKFORCE FIFO, SORPORATE TRAFFIC, SERVICES  
& CONTRACTOR TRANSFERS, FREIGHT**

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