

CHALCO INFORMATION PAPER

Why Townsville is the best location

Townsville is already a major base metals processing centre. Chalco's alumina refinery would strengthen North Queensland's place in this important sector of our economy.

Townsville's excellent transport infrastructure, with a well established transport and rail infrastructure network converging on a deep water port, makes it the ideal location for the refinery.

The **Port of Townsville** is already the most diverse exporter of base metals in the world. It is a multi-cargo commercial port with a diverse product base. The flexibility of its existing infrastructure and its expansion potential could readily accommodate the project's cargo.

Townsville has a plentiful, reliable and cost effective **water** supply which is vital for heavy industry.

Townsville has a population of 165,000 offering a large population base from which to draw a **workforce**. Townsville's place as a base metals processing capital means the available workforce in the region is already highly geared towards mining and minerals processing.

James Cook University enables direct access to engineering, science, mining and metallurgical experts and graduates. JCU offers courses in more than 15 disciplines catering for the mining and minerals processing sector.

The Townsville region also has more than 40 registered training organisations, including the Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE, ensuring a steady stream of qualified tradespeople and apprentices.

The **Townsville State Development Area** is ideal for industrial development due to its close proximity to the port, the ready availability of key infrastructure and the synergies that can be achieved by co-location of new industries with established TSDA industries such as Sun Metals' zinc refinery and the Xstrata copper refinery.

When constructed, the **Eastern Port Access Corridor** will provide direct, efficient and safe materials transportation and services access from the Townsville State Development Area to the Port of Townsville.