



## **Australian High Commission**

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### **Ghana**

**High Commissioner**

July, 20 2020

**To Whom It May Concern**

#### **Letter of Commendation – Geodrill**

In my capacity as Australian High Commissioner to Ghana, I have had the pleasure of engaging with Geodrill over the last four years. Geodrill, while not listed as an Australian company on the ASX, has an Australian management team and certainly flies the flag for Australia in Ghana and across West Africa.

My engagement with Geodrill has been both in regards to supporting their commercial operations in Ghana and the region, and also particularly in the area of their corporate social responsibility activities in Ghana. I have been greatly impressed with Geodrill in both regards.

To the best of my knowledge, Geodrill always operates to the highest ethical standards. It is an innovative and forward thinking company, and also a company that cares about the people and the communities it works in.

Geodrill has been a strong supporter of quite a number of the Australian High Commission's charity fundraising activities in Ghana including: a fundraising boxing exhibition evening held at the Australian High Commission Residence to raise money for the Ghana Commonwealth Games team to travel to Australia for the Commonwealth Games in 2018; our annual Melbourne Cup charity ball raising funds for local charities; numerous projects assisting the Australian High Commission supporting the Orthopedic Training Centre (OTC) in Nsawam; drilling a water well and other support for the Pearl Safe Haven women's shelter in Accra; and supporting our Women In Mining initiatives. In all these activities, Geodrill has been quick to come on board with us, and generous in their contributions.

In addition to the support Geodrill has given to the Australian High Commission in Ghana, I know the company also supports a number of other charities including the Save Our Lives orphanage in Kumasi, the Ghana Children's Heart Foundation and the Children of the Light school in Aburi.

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I have had the pleasure of visiting Geodrill's main workshop in Ghana near Kumasi and there the companies' commitment to local hire, local training and local procurement is obvious and truly impressive. The benefits that Geodrill as a company provide to Ghana are clear and commendable. Many young Ghanaians now have highly successful careers in the mining sector thanks to the training and support of Geodrill, including having had the opportunity to travel to Australia for further training and work experience. Geodrill also has a strong commitment to gender equality, and now has an impressive number of young women working and training in technical areas of its operations.

I would be happy to discuss any of this further should you wish to contact me at any time.



Andrew Barnes

Australian High Commissioner to Ghana