

Editorial policy relating to *The Australian Geologist*
Revised 31 January 2013

The Australian Geologist (TAG) receives articles, reports, letters, images and reviews from members of the Geological Society of Australia. Some content is solicited, but most is spontaneously submitted by members. Currently, decisions about the content of TAG are reached by consensus between the TAG editorial team of Executive Officer (Sue Fletcher), the Production Editor (Kate Hawkins) and the Technical Editor (Bill Birch). In part, the input from all three individuals overlap, but the Technical Editor is the only one with responsibility for assessing the scientific merit of an article submitted for possible publication. The Technical Editor may seek advice from scientific colleagues from time-to-time to make sure that the process of deciding on the content of TAG is rigorous and fair. The TAG Editor is also a member of the GSA Executive and GSA Council Office Bearer, and reports to Council at the biennial Council meeting (Rule 16 [a.]).

In general, submissions to TAG are rarely rejected or censored, as GSA members have a right to express views. In particular, all letters and most reviews should be accepted in principle, provided they meet word limits and do not contain defamatory language. Scientific merit is not so important in letters and reviews. However, feature articles and special reports which have a content based in the Earth Sciences should meet what is regarded as generally accepted standards, in the sense that they are based on modern observations and ideas arising from rigorously assessed evidence. Whether or not a contribution meets those standards may be, in rare cases, a matter of judgement, but the ultimate decision must be left to the Technical Editor.

The GSA executive does not involve itself in editorial decisions on a day-to-day basis.

Prepared by:

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Approved by the Executive Committee on the 31st January 2013