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Wayne's world of sand mining

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GLEN NORRIS

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FORMER Labor treasurer and deputy prime minister **Wayne Swan** (pictured) has thrown himself into corporate life since leaving politics.

Swan will join Brisbane-based silica sand miner Diatreme Resources as chairman and non-executive director from next month in a bit of a coup for the company, which is developing a silica project near Cooktown.

The project aims to supply high quality premium grade silica and mineral sands for use in global solar panels and ceramics markets.

Swan, who retired from politics in 2019, also sits on the board of Stanwell Corporation and superannuation fund Cbus.

Diatreme says Swan, who served as treasurer from 2007-2013, will be a strong advocate on the board for economic development, Indigenous engagement and health and safety.

Richlister **Brian Flannery** last year threw his weight behind Diatreme Resources with his family office Ilwella subscribing to around a third of the silica miner's new \$5m capital raising. Flannery, a billionaire investor who made his fortune in coal, also sits on the board of electric car recharging company Tritium.

Swan says he is pleased to accept the new job with the Cooktown project showing enormous potential to generate new jobs and investment for the Hope Vale and Cooktown regions.

"Its silica product will help support the Asia-Pacific region's push for renewables through its use as a direct component of solar panels," says Swan.

