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Online for miners

US online financial newsletter www.moneyandmarkets.com says, "The No 1 rule for making money in the next decade is to get long [buy] whatever the Chinese are buying." It recommends BHP Billiton, saying that Boashan Iron and Steel is expected to buy a 9 per cent stake in it and that Chinese Iron and Steel is going to increase its stake in Australian prospector Apollo Minerals to 19.9 per cent. Sinosteel of China bought a 2.4 per cent interest in the Australian Stock Exchange-listed Murchinson Metals and has offered \$954 million for Midwest shares it does not own. In the newsletter's

view, "Even more telling perhaps, are the deals that did not happen." Steelmaker Shougang's attempt to buy more than 19.7 per cent of Australian miner Mt Gibson Iron was blocked after running into strong opposition from Australian regulators. Though not totally accurate, the statements are spreading the word about small Australian miners in a giant investment market.

■ Professional advice should be sought before making investment decisions.