



Trusted Forrest lieutenant leaves Fortescue after a decade

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Body

The executive in charge of **Fortescue's** fledgling iron ore operations in Gabon is leaving the Andrew Forrest-chaired mining and energy giant, the latest in a long line of senior executives to depart the company over the last year.

Julie Shuttleworth has been one of Dr Forrest's most trusted lieutenants for more than a decade, having served as the chief executive of the company's energy division when it was first established as **Fortescue** Future Industries.

More recently, she has been **Fortescue's** deputy chief executive - a role created when Elizabeth Gaines became chief executive to ensure there was sufficient mining expertise at the top levels of the company - and run mining operations in Africa.

Fortescue staff held a farewell party for Ms Shuttleworth, one of the miner's most respected and popular leaders, on Wednesday. She joined **Fortescue** as general manager at its Cloudbreak mine in Western Australia in 2013. She also ran the Solomon mine before being appointed as deputy chief executive in February 2018.

Ms Shuttleworth said she was grateful for her time at **Fortescue** and leaving to spend more time with her family.

"It's time to spend more quality time with my family and that will include some great adventures while travelling together," Ms Shuttleworth said yesterday.

"I have really loved my 11 years with **Fortescue** and the experiences that I've had during this time - from sitting with the excavator and dump truck operators at Cloudbreak, to travelling the globe with the chairman [Dr Forrest] meeting presidents and prime ministers, to working in the jungle in Gabon and everything in between.

"I have had amazing career growth and worked with thousands of incredible people."

Ms Shuttleworth said she had no immediate plans to work elsewhere.

Fortescue confirmed Ms Shuttleworth had opted to end her time at the company to spend some time travelling overseas with her family.

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"Julie has been an integral part of **Fortescue**'s success. We thank Julie for all she has contributed over 11 years and wish her the best as she enjoys some travel and time with her family," a company spokesman said.

Ms Shuttleworth's departure adds to the growing list of senior executives who have left **Fortescue** recently.

Green energy division chief financial officer Deborah Caudle exited the company in January after less than five months as part of what **Fortescue** described as a restructure.

Her departure came days after the resignation of former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull was formalised and the exit of external affairs boss Fiona Sugden to join Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's team.

Last year's departures included former Reserve Bank of Australia deputy governor Guy Debelle, who lasted just five months as chief financial officer of the green energy division and severed his links to **Fortescue** last September.

Dr Debelle's departure from the green energy division's board came in the same week that **Fortescue** chief financial officer Christine Morris resigned - after just two months in the role - and the resignation of Fiona Hick, who spent just six months as chief executive of the company's iron ore division.

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