



The Hon Catherine King MP
Minister for Regional Services,
Local Communities and
Territories
Minister for Road Safety

The Hon Warren Snowdon MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Science and Personnel
Minister for Indigenous Health
Member for Lingiari

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

27 June 2013

NEW MINE LEASE FOR CHRISTMAS ISLAND

The Christmas Island economy has received a boost with a new lease for its phosphate mine, securing its ownership until 2034.

The Federal Minister for Territories, Catherine King, today signed the lease alongside the Member for Lingiari, Warren Snowdon in a signing ceremony at Parliament House, Canberra.

Mr Snowdon said the lease would provide economic certainty for the Island's community.

"The lease will be welcome news for the Island – for the mine's operators and workers, as well as the broader Christmas Island community, which will benefit from continued investment in capital upgrades across Christmas Island," Mr Snowdon said.

"Most importantly, this new lease provides security for the Island. I know it will be welcomed by the entire community.

Phosphate Resources Limited currently employs 155 full-time workers.

"The economic certainty means that the mine's operator can continue its investment in the Christmas Island community," Mr Snowdon said.

Minister King said the Australian Government is committed to economic development in the Territories.

"Over recent years, the company has partnered with the Australian Government to deliver a range of community projects including the recent Mining to Plant Enterprise agricultural trial," Ms King said.

"This trial will provide evidence on the viability of growing a variety of crops on mine lease areas across Christmas Island."

Mr Snowdon said the new lease allowed Phosphate Resources Limited and its subsidiary Christmas Island Phosphates to continue to take an active role in assisting the community of Christmas Island to improve sustainability.

“The new lease will also provide continued conservation levy and royalties which can be reinvested in the Christmas Island community,” Mr Snowdon said.

“Revenue from the levy is funding rehabilitation activities on relinquished mine sites.”

The new lease also provides information on the areas intended to be relinquished by Phosphate Resources Limited and backfill stockpiles which can be rehabilitated.

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