

Resource Rent Tax

Analysis and advocacy on the proposed Minerals Resource Rent Tax (MRRT) and expanded Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) remains a priority area of work for CME.

The Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Western and Northern Australia, attended a meeting of the CME Tax Working Group on 5 August, engaging in an open discussion on the proposed MRRT/PRRT with members.

The issues paper and modelling being developed by Ernst and Young is also well advanced, and will be finalised shortly, with a view to it being available to inform CME engagement on the MRRT/PRRT following the federal election.

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Directors General Pilbara Tour

The Department of Regional Development and Lands with the assistance of CME held a two-day tour in the Pilbara for Directors General from 19-20 August.

As part of the tour Directors General visited Rio Tinto's port operations in Dampier, the Woodside Visitors Centre on the Burrup Peninsula and looked at current and future operations at Nelson Point in Port Hedland from BHP Billiton's Viewing Tower.



Participants in the Directors General tour at Rio Tinto's port operations

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CME Sundowner – Change of Venue

Thank you to those who have registered to attend the CME sundowner being held on Tuesday next week (24 August). **Please be aware the venue has changed, the sundowner is now being held at the Form Art Gallery.**

The Hon Norman Moore MLC, Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Fisheries; Electoral Affairs will provide the guest address, discussing 'resources for the future', upcoming projects as well as infrastructure and labour requirements in Western Australia.

If you have not received a confirmation email, we may not have your registration. Please contact CME for confirmation.

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Gross Rental Value Working Group

A joint government-industry working group convened to consider the application of Gross Rental Value (GRV) assessments for determining local government rates met for the first time on 16 August at CME.

In addition to CME members, the meeting was also attended by officials from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Department of Local Government, and the Department of State Development, the A/Valuer General, and a representative of the Western Australian Local Government Association.

The implementation of GRV for rating assessments has been a significant area of concern for CME members and good progress was made at this meeting towards understanding the rating evaluation process and settling on terms of reference for the working group.

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PICC Principals Meeting

The Pilbara Industries Community Council (PICC) Principals Roundtable was held on 16 August in Perth.

The PICC Principals heard from Tim Shanahan, Chair of the Pilbara Development Commission, and Chris Adams, the new General Manager of the Pilbara Cities Office, to clarify their roles and responsibilities, funding and resourcing, and linkages of stakeholders involved in Pilbara Cities.

The Principals agreed to collaboratively address a number of Pilbara priorities identified by its Steering Committee.

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State Growth Outlook

The data collection phase of the work to update CME's *Growth Outlook Study* is nearing completion.

The *Growth Outlook Study* was first released in April 2009 and has provided the basis for CME advocacy in relation to a vision for state and regional Western Australia, regional planning, infrastructure planning, skilled labour demand, energy policy and water management.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, commissioned to update the study, will be conducting a series of workshops with CME committees and working groups to assist with the interpretation of the data during September.

CME expects to release the updated Study in early November 2010.

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New Member

CME is pleased to welcome Oakajee Port and Rail as a new member.



Oakajee Port and Rail, a joint venture between Murchison Metals and Mitsubishi Development, is developing a new deepwater port 25km north of Geraldton, and 570km of heavy haulage rail line to deliver iron ore to international clients.

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Infrastructure and Economics Committee Meeting

The CME Infrastructure and Economics Committee (IEC) met on 6 August. The proposed federal MRRT/PRRT continues to be a key area of interest, with the IEC considering the outcomes of work undertaken by the CME Tax Working Group and engagement with the Minerals Council of Australia and other organisations.

The IEC also heard from guest speakers on three issues: the progress of the Oakajee Port and Rail project; cooperation between the Australian Bureau of Statistics and industry on the 2011 Census; and a review being undertaken by the Department of Transport on High-Wide Load policy.

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Mining Securities Working Group

The CME Mining Securities Working Group met for the second time this year on 13 July. Members discussed the key issues and principles relating to mining securities in Western Australia in preparation for the next meeting of the Mining Securities Industry Liaison Committee chaired by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP).

The Group also raised concerns with the timeline proposed by DMP for delivering recommendations for a new mining securities policy in advance of the expiry of the current moratorium on the increase in bond rates at the end of the year.

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CME Staff Movements

CME is pleased to advise that Chris Alexander has been appointed as Executive Officer for Infrastructure. Chris joined CME in late 2009 in the role of Project Officer, Environment and Land Access.

Chris can be contacted on 08 9220 8531 or c.alexander@cmewa.com.

CME is also pleased to announce the appointment of Dennis Jacobs as Senior Project Officer in the Land Access portfolio. Dennis joins CME from Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation where he worked across the areas of Heritage Coordination, Future Acts and Project Management.

Dennis can be contacted on 08 9220 9507 or d.jacobs@cmewa.com.

Radiation Industry Group Meeting

The CME Radiation Industry Group (RIG) met on 13 August. RIG is a group of radiation professionals who discuss and share information on technical issues.

The meeting included discussion on issues such as the Natural Occurring Radiation Material guidelines, transport regulations, instrumentation, laboratories for the analysis of water samples, non-human biota and the National Mine Safety Framework.

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London Skills Expo

The "Skills Australia Needs Expo" is being held in London on 11 and 12 September hosted by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

The Expo is designed to attract skilled workers to Australia and is an opportunity for employers to meet and potentially

recruit workers from London. Only those people with the skills and experience Australia needs will receive an invitation to attend the Expo, enabling a targeted approach to qualified skilled migrants.

CME will have a booth at the Expo representing its membership. CME will promote the WA resources sector broadly and compile information of those individuals who meet the criteria identified by members in a database.

Your input is sought on developing the criteria on which you would like us to screen people and any information you require in the database to aid in your assessment of the potential suitability of candidates.

Please advise Nicole Roocke (n.roocke@cmewa.com) of your availability for a meeting on 27 August, from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at CME.

For further information please visit the CME website at <http://www.cmewa.com.au/UserDir/Documents/100719-MPR-Skills%20Australia%20Needs%20flyer-v1.0.pdf>.

Or contact Emma Hogen-Esch, DIAC Industry Outreach Officer based at CME.

Phone: 0434 077 585
Email: immigration@cmewa.com

Mid West Community, Careers and Training Expo

CME was pleased to participate in the Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance (GIOA) Community Careers and Training Expo held at Durack Institute of Technology in Geraldton on 5 August.

CME was one of 55 exhibitors promoting the vast range of training and career options available in the Mid West, areas of skills shortages and study and pathways into these areas.

CME co-sponsored the production of a DVD promoting careers in the Mid West, which was launched at the expo.

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