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Safety Differently - the hot topic for CME's Safety Lessons Learned Forum

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People Strategies

The Women in Resources Awards were presented in March in front of more than 1000 people. CME also ran the Inspiring Girls initiative which saw 16 companies host 90 school girls and their teachers at the awards and a careers session after the breakfast.

At the conclusion of the breakfast, Executive Council and CME's Gender Diversity Reference Group held a joint meeting – the CME Gender Diversity Future Directions Workshop. The meeting discussed a number of innovative strategies to improve gender diversity in the industry as well as related policy issues.

With the guidance of its Aboriginal Working Group, CME recently released *Growing Aboriginal Participation*. Contributions were received from CME member companies and community organisations to highlight the successful strategies and programs operating in the resources sector to grow the capacity of Aboriginal people seeking employment and assisting Aboriginal business to provide the necessary services to industry.

These initiatives form part of resources companies' broader strategies to ensure Aboriginal participation in the sector continues to grow. CME's 2015 Diversity Survey shows the participation rate of Aboriginal people in the Western Australian resources industry was 5.5 per cent, up from 4.2 per cent in 2013 and well above the industry average in Western Australia.

Via its FIFOFacts.com website, CME launched an electronic portal to facilitate employees directly contacting members of parliament to voice their support for the practice of FIFO.

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Occupational Safety and Health

CME convened the first Sharing Safety Lessons Learned Forum for the year in February. The session topic, 'Safety Differently' attracted strong industry attendance.

Throughout the quarter, CME participated in a number of Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) Ministerial Advisory Panel Workshops to provide input into the development of regulations to support the proposed Work Health and Safety (Resources) Bill. The Bill is currently with Parliamentary Council for drafting and a consultation regulation impact statement on the regulations is expected to occur in Q3.

Following the commencement of a DMP review of site mental health strategies and release of a Psycho-social Audit Tool and Audit Guide, CME engaged with DMP to seek clarity and provide industry input to ensure DMP's approach to this important issue supports continuous improvement, promotes general workplace wellbeing (including physical and psychological health) and acknowledges the proactive approaches already being undertaken across the resources sector.

Nominations for the 2016 CME Safety and Health Innovation Awards closed in April with 47 high quality submissions received across the three categories. The Awards are a key mechanism for promoting sharing of new approaches and solutions to safety and health challenges.

Finalists presented their innovations as part of a special 2016 CME Safety and Health Innovation Forum and category winners were announced at a Cocktail event on 3 August 2016.

Details of the winners and finalists, as well as photos of the event are available at www.cmewa.com

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Infrastructure

In April, CME hosted a sun-downer with Philip Davies, Chief Executive Officer of Infrastructure Australia. Mr Davies and members discussed Infrastructure Australia's mandate, its recently released Australian Infrastructure Plan, and the current opportunities and challenges for infrastructure planning in Western Australia relative to other Australian jurisdictions.

South Australia's Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission released its final report in May, following a year-long investigation. Consistent with CME's recommendations, the Commission proposed simplifying duplicative state and federal approvals for mining radioactive ores, planning an enabling framework in the event of future commercial viability for domestic nuclear power, and expert monitoring on the commercialisation of new reactor technologies.

CME input to the Electricity Market Review continued through submissions on the reserve capacity mechanism and rule change process and panel eligibility criteria. The Minister for Energy announced several reform commitments consistent with CME's recommendations, including retaining the capacity mechanism, transitioning to an auction and retiring 380 megawatts of generation capacity from Synergy's portfolio. However, substantial differentiation of capacity payments for some technologies will occur in the transition period prior to moving to an auction.

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Economics and Tax

CME advocated strongly for improvements to the local government rating process and supported the review by the Department of Local Government and Communities and subsequent release of updated rates policies in February. The policy highlights the importance of local governments demonstrating efficiency improvements rather than solely seeking to increase rates revenue from resources sector ratepayers.

CME completed its economic impact project earlier in the year. Information provided by 33 member companies demonstrates a direct financial contribution of \$28.8 billion dollars to Western Australia in 2014/2015 and a further \$21.1 billion to the rest of

Australian through wages and salaries, community contributions, purchase of goods and services and payments to government. Fact sheets highlighting this contribution have been prepared and are available on the CME website.

In June, CME attended an ASIC roundtable meeting to discuss industry concerns over the recently released ASIC Info Sheet 214. CME's concerns with the new guidance included ambiguity around the release of Scoping Study information without 'reasonable grounds' and the prohibited release of forward looking statements without 'secured funding'. Additional concerns relate to the possibility of a reduction in market transparency and the potential for restriction on the ability of minerals companies to raise capital.

Issues identified and discussed at the ASIC roundtable included:

1. Definition of the purpose and extent of Scoping Studies;
2. Definition of Objective Reasonable Grounds as they relate to secured funding;
3. Clarification of JORC Modifying Factors and addressing the apparent gap between JORC (Chapter 4 Table 1) and the ASX Listing Rules; and
4. Improved communication and education by ASIC.

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Environment

The first half of 2016 has seen two major developments for the environmental regulatory framework in Western Australia.

Firstly, the Hon. Albert Jacob MLA, Minister for Environment; Heritage announced an independent legal review of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) policies and processes. The review involved a comprehensive analysis of both the EPA's statutory functions in relation to environmental impact assessment and the current framework of policy instruments maintained by the EPA.

The outcomes of the review recommended the EPA adopt a more simplified policy framework, arranged in a hierarchical manner which clearly links back to statutory functions and powers. This was a key issue raised by CME in our meeting with the review team and was encouraging it had been incorporated into the final report.

Secondly, the Mining Legislation Amendment Bill was referred to the Upper House Standing Committee on Legislation in February. CME lodged a submission and appeared before the committee to reinforce industry's support of the Bill in reducing red-tape and duplication in environmental approvals.

CME is working with the Hon. Sean L'Estrange MLA, Minister for Mines and Petroleum to ensure amendments to the Bill are quickly prioritised and further delays in the passage of this important legislation are avoided.

Mine closure and relinquishment is also a focus area for the Environment portfolio this year. CME initiated discussions with Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) and EPA to identify key areas for reform. A workshop is being held in August with senior industry and government representatives to prioritise reforms and inform DMP's work program for the coming year.

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Land Access

In March, the Land Access Committee held its first meeting of the year. Dr Ivor Roberts - Executive Director of Mineral Titles, Department of Mines and Petroleum attended and briefed members on the agency's work to move all mineral titles transactions fully online by 1 July 2016.

In response to concerns raised by the Land Access Committee about how system outages and technical issues for online transactions would be treated, CME hosted a follow-up workshop with DMP to develop a policy to deal with these scenarios.

Work began in March on the Exploration Roundtable project which investigates the barriers to obtaining and maintaining access to land for exploration. The project consists of a survey of CME members and a report summarising the findings with recommendations. CME intends to use the report to assist its advocacy efforts in the lead up to the State election.

In April, CME attended a briefing session on the draft *Lands Administration Act Amendment Bill 2016* - the centrepiece of the rangelands reform led by Nationals Leader Hon. Terry Redman MLA. CME made a submission broadly supportive of the reform but conditional on further amendments to ensure rangelands leases do not unduly prejudice mining, petroleum and State Agreement interests.

CME has continued to engage with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA) following the *Robinson v Fielding [2015] WA Supreme Court* decision and continued stagnation of *Aboriginal Heritage Amendment Bill 2015* in Parliament. CME has met with Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Hon. Peter Collier MLC as well as DAA to encourage their ongoing support for legislative reform.

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Mid West

The State Budget handed down in May held interest for Mid West commodity exporters using Geraldton Port, with the announcement the Port Enhancement Project (PEP) charge was set to be dismantled. This followed a review instigated by CME on behalf of its members. The overall impact of the changes are yet to be determined, but the PEP removal is a useful first step in the creation of an improved fees and charges regime at Geraldton Port underpinning the resources sector in the Mid West region.

CME Mid West held its June meeting at Golden Grove mine site near Yalgoo, hosted by MMG and joined on site by Member for Geraldton Ian Blayney MLA. At the meeting, updates were provided on Mining Act Amendments and the recent review of the Environmental Protection Authority's policies and procedures.

CME Mid West's Aboriginal Networking Group also met over the quarter providing members with an opportunity to share insights and progress in building up Aboriginal employment within the resources sector. The City of Greater Geraldton, the Mulga Mail, Central West TAFE and Mr Blayney's office also attended the meeting, along with participants in this year's MMG Bayalgu program, who were extremely positive about the role these employment programs have in transforming their career and life options.

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Eastern and North Eastern



CME continues to provide an industry perspective to a range of consultation forums associated with the development of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Growth Plan. The aim of the Plan is to strengthen the City's strategic positioning, attract business and investment, support the growth of competitive industries and increase liveability.

The CME Surface Mine Emergency Response Competition was held at the Hannans North Tourist Mine in May. The annual competition saw mines rescue teams compete in nine challenging scenarios designed to improve emergency response skills and knowledge. Norton Gold Fields Ltd took out the overall honours for Best Team, followed by runner up Gold Fields St Ives.

CME members met with Federal Minister for Environment and Energy, Hon. Josh Frydenberg and Federal Member for O'Connor Rick Wilson in Kalgoorlie in May. The discussion covered topics including Fly-In Fly-Out, Australian Tax Office valuations for mining assets, regional liveability, skilled occupations, education, infrastructure and power arrangements to the region.

Also during May, CME presented at a Working in Partnership Forum hosted by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science in Kalgoorlie. The Forum was held to increase economic activity and outcomes for Aboriginal people within the region with CME presenting on Aboriginal employment and business participation rates in the resources sector.

The Eastern Regional Council met in June at Curtin University's Western Australian School of Mines (WASM) in Kalgoorlie. Following the meeting, members toured the new accommodation facilities at Agricola residential college and attended a networking sundowner hosted by the WASM student guild.

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South West

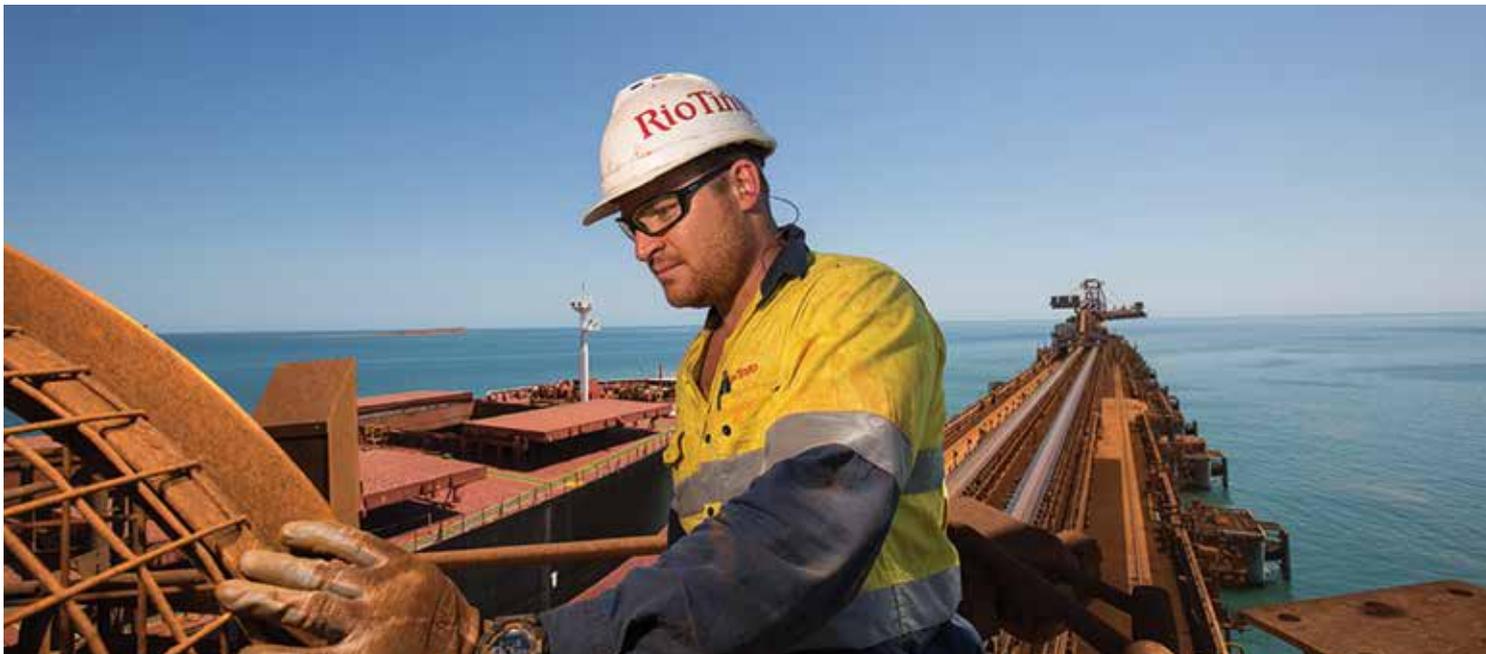
The Department of Environment Regulation (DER) attended the first South West Regional Council of the year. Members took the opportunity to engage with Director-General Jason Banks and senior staff to discuss the reforms of DER's regulatory functions and services. Members welcomed the opportunity to discuss issues of regulation as they relate to south west industry.

CME recently hosted a regional roundtable discussion on training issues impacting south west resources sector operations. Of interest to CME members was high risk work licences and verification of competence across the sector. Members also considered issues such as quality of assessment in vocational education and training and discussed training packages and the Australian Industry Skills Committee. This group will re-convene during September in the South West.

CME continues to provide opportunities for users of the Port of Bunbury to collaborate on issues of importance to port service. A meeting was held in Bunbury recently.

A meeting of community relations specialists, representing south west industry was hosted by CME during June in Bunbury. Discussion took place on the research CME conducted into the community perceptions of the resources industry and how the survey results relate to the south west region.

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North West

CME has continued to reinforce the importance of long-distance commuting for the Western Australian economy and promote the efforts of members to offer a wide choice of accommodation in all Pilbara towns. In the context of current commodity prices, North West Region members have been concentrating on reducing unit costs while maintaining their significant community contributions to local government, indigenous employment and community organisations.

Local activities included the North West Regional Council meeting in Karratha in March, where attendees had the opportunity to discuss the importance of Pilbara Health Initiative Projects including the ongoing development of the Karratha Health Campus with City of Karratha CEO Chris Adams. Availability and access to health and emergency services are critical for resource companies operating in the region and especially for remote mine sites and offshore installations.

Members also considered the Department of Health's Port Hedland Air Quality Health Risk Assessment for Particulate Matter report which acknowledged a wide range of dust sources and recommended implementing long-term planning strategies as a tool for gradually moving residential areas away from port operations and installing industry buffer areas over residential zones.

CME will continue to engage with state and local governments to ensure strategies such as State Planning Policy 4.1 and Pilbara Cities provide clear policy direction, protect strategic infrastructure, reflect the needs and contributions of industry and deliver intended benefits for local, community and regional development.

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Kimberley

In May, the Kimberley Regional Council (KRC) met with Member for Kimberley Josie Farrer MLA and Shadow Minister for Mines and Petroleum, Bill Johnston MLA. The meeting was an opportunity for member companies to provide updates on their respective project activities in the Kimberley. The meeting also focused on better ways of working to improve capacity and partnerships between industry and traditional owners in the Kimberley. The formation of strong and enduring partnerships between the resources sector, indigenous communities and governments will be important to the sustainable development of future resources projects in the Kimberley.

The Northern Australia White Paper has been a key priority of the KRC as it sets out the federal government's aspirations for the development of northern Australia through infrastructure investment, measures to attract business and regulatory reform including land tenure and cultural heritage. The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility is a cornerstone of the policy agenda and legislation has passed through the Parliament and board appointed. From 1 July 2016, \$5 billion of concessional finance will be available to support the construction of economic infrastructure.

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In the News



State Labor tour



WA Police Tour



AGM and Business Lunch



AGM and Business Lunch

Recent Events

3 March

Gold Sector Group Sundowner

4 March

Women In Resources Awards

31 March

WA Police Kalgoorlie Tour

28 April

Annual General Meeting and Business Lunch – keynote speaker Prof. Geoffrey Blainey

18 May

Public Affairs Roundtable – Political insights

24 May

State directors-general dinner – Lamont's Bishops House

8-10 June

State ALP Resources Tour

3 August

Safety and Health Innovation Awards Forum and cocktail party

Dates for your Diary

8 August

People Strategies Forum

9 August

Environment Sundowner

26 August

Public Affairs Roundtable – Social Media

31 August

Mid West Regional Council

1 September

Women In Resources National Awards - Adelaide

7 September

Eastern Regional Council, North West Regional Council

Find us on:

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 The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia

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