Territory resources in the international spotlight

17 March 2015

The vast natural wealth of the Northern Territory is this week being showcased to 95 national and international mining and petroleum companies.

Minister for Mines and Energy David Tollner opened the two-day Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) in Alice Springs today, addressing delegates from Australia, China, the USA and Japan.

“The exploration industry is one of the key drivers of the Territory’s continuing economic growth,” said Minister Tollner.

“The minerals and petroleum sector is our largest single industry and provides jobs for thousands of families across the Territory.

“But it is only by encouraging and supporting companies to explore new ground that we will continue to grow the industry and create more jobs and opportunities.

“That’s why AGES 2015 is so important. Minerals exploration is a competitive, global industry and it’s vital that companies in Australia and overseas continue to put investment dollars into the Territory.”

AGES presents new geoscience from the NT Geological Service to the resources industry.

The Northern Territory Government is supporting the exploration industry through its $23.8 million Creating Opportunities for Resources Exploration (CORE) program, which includes extra resources for the NT Geological Survey.

Minister for Business Peter Styles said AGES also incorporates the Mining Services Expo which is showcasing 40 Territory exhibitors.

“This expo offers local suppliers direct contact with key players in the industry,” said Minister Styles.

“Local businesses have come along to see how they can get involved with the supply and service of the mining and exploration industry and discover potential opportunities.”
Minister Styles said exhibitors such as Newmont Tanami Operations, Arafura Resources, ABM Resources and Tellus Holdings demonstrated the strength of the Central Australian economy.

“Alice Springs is buzzing with solid numbers of visitors boosting the important tourism industry and new developments in the mining industry,” Minister Styles said.

For more information about the Alice Springs Mining Services Expo contact Michael Steller from the Department of Business on 8951 8502 or email michael.steller@nt.gov.au

**Media Contact David Tollner:** Stuart Sherwin 0438 011 226

**Media Contact Peter Styles:** Renee Miller 0407 400 446