Media Release

David Tollner
Minister for Mines and Energy

AGES Conference begins in Alice Springs next week

11 March 2016

Industry experts are set to gather in Alice Springs next week to attend the 17th Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES).

Mines and Energy Minister David Tollner said AGES is a technical conference that presents an opportunity for industry to access the latest in fresh exploration ideas and geoscientific data on the Territory’s minerals, oil and gas resources.

“AGES is an event that continues to grow in its reputation and importance as the key technical forum and networking event for the Territory’s exploration industry,” he said.

“Participants are able to access the latest geoscientific data and network with those who share an interest in the discovery and development of the Territory’s mineral and petroleum resources.

“AGES provides delegates with new data, ideas and information to drive further investment in exploration.”

Key highlights for AGES 2016 include:

- the release of the latest data and information on the highly prospective McArthur River Basin including the Beetaloo Sub-basin
- new concepts on copper mineral systems in Central Australia
- release of a joint Government-industry seismic survey over Tennant Creek
- a technical workshop by CSIRO on the applied use of geophysical data for petroleum and minerals exploration
- workshops on legislative frameworks for mineral and petroleum exploration

The program will also include technical presentations on recent exploration highlights from companies including Teck Australia, Santos, Newmont, Independence Group, Newmarket Gold, Origin Energy, KGL Resources and Emmerson Resources.
AGES will also present new geoscience results and concepts generated from the Territory Government’s largest exploration investment – the four year, $23.8 million Creating Opportunities for Resource Exploration (CORE) initiative.

Dr Ian Scrimgeour, Executive Director of the NT Geological Survey said that AGES is the premier networking forum for all those interested in mineral and petroleum exploration in the NT.

“Whether you are already exploring in the Northern Territory, seeking new exploration opportunities, or looking to network and make contacts in the NT exploration sector, AGES is the only event where the NT’s minerals and petroleum explorers are all in one place,” he said.

Whilst the Northern Territory remains largely underexplored, current exploration activities show that new major minerals and petroleum discoveries are still being made.

“Mining and energy are key industries for the Territory economy and the future of these industries is dependent on a healthy exploration sector,” Mr Tollner said.

“This conference will demonstrate the commitment of both Government and industry to developing the north and will help bring further investment dollars into the Territory, which the Country Liberals Government wholly welcomes from new Australian and international companies.”

Delegates from around Australia and internationally will attend the AGES conference at the Alice Springs Convention Centre on 15-16 March.

To access the full program for the AGES conference go to www.ages.nt.gov.au

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