Drone Technology aiding Legacy Mine Remediation

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Drone technology is now being used to inspect Legacy Mine sites in the Northern Territory.

Minister for Primary Industry and Resources, Ken Vowles, said drone technology is able to reach areas of mine sites that people simply cannot, and can be used to produce digital terrain models to provide a better perspective.

“The use of this new drone technology allows for fast and efficient inspection of legacy mining sites leading to further remediation work and heightened community safety,” Mr Vowles said.

“The drone has recently been used in the Tennant Creek area to inspect the legacy mine sites Warrego, Orlando, Nobles Nob and former Peko mine after recent heavy rains.

“The vision that has come back from these sites has proven to be of huge benefit as it allowed rapid investigation to see if any urgent works were needed.

“Images and data from the drone can be used to help plan the next stages of work to help mitigate risk from legacy mine sites.”

Minister Vowles said the resource industry is a key element in the Development of the North and in boosting the Territory’s economy.

“Our Government is committed to providing opportunities for regional development - a key priority is supporting Tennant Creek’s progression as a mining services hub for the NT,” Mr Vowles said.

“The estimated value of contracts around Tennant Creek over the next three years is between $3m and $5m and Legacy Mine Remediation will play a large role in this.

“We recently announced an increased minimum weighting of local content of 30 per cent in all government quotes and tenders, however the Legacy Mine Unit already uses 40 per cent local content weighting for assessing tenders.

“This is to ensure local businesses have a greater chance of winning the work, therefore supporting local jobs growth in the Territory.
“Our government will also ensure 40 per cent Indigenous employment for contracts associated with legacy mines programs issued in the Tennant Creek Region.”

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