



A further \$100 million commitment by Hancock Group to benefit West Australians

Tuesday, 22 November 2022

Hancock Prospecting, Roy Hill and Atlas Iron will together make a \$100 million contribution to WA infrastructure projects and community and social initiatives for people across the state, becoming founding members of the *Resources Community Investment Initiative (RCII)*, a new joint resources industry and WA government program launched by the Premier today.

It is symbolic that the RCII was announced by the Hon. Mark McGowan MLA on the same date as the annual National Mining and Related Industries Day which was founded by Hancock Group Chairman, Mrs Gina Rinehart AO, and is celebrating its 10th anniversary. National Mining Day celebrates the importance of and enormous contribution of the essential mining industry and its people, which underpins the Australian economy and our enviable living standards.

The \$100 million commitment from Hancock Prospecting, Roy Hill and Atlas is in addition to the millions of dollars the companies collectively contribute through their own education, health, and social programs for regional and remote communities, including Indigenous Australians. It is also in addition to the billions of dollars of taxes and royalties paid by Hancock Group companies which enable state and national governments to fund services and infrastructure including defence, police, hospitals, and emergency services.

Mrs Rinehart said the RCII is another reminder of the significance of mining, and its importance to Australia. It's a great example of 'when mining does well so does Australia'.

"Mining is the largest contributor to the state and national economy, provides the highest paid jobs in Australia, and delivers the minerals essential to our everyday lives," Mrs Rinehart said.

Hancock Prospecting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Garry Korte said, "We're pleased to be joining the Resources Community Investment Initiative as a foundation member and making a \$100 million commitment on behalf the Hancock Group of companies. This initiative will make a real difference to those in our remote Indigenous communities."

At the official launch of the RCII, Mr McGowan said the initiative recognises the ongoing collaboration between the WA Government and local resources sector and the State's strong response to COVID-19, which has helped to maintain WA's position as the economic powerhouse of Australia.

“The strength of WA’s economy places us in the best position to set up our State for the long term,” Mr McGowan said. “This last financial year alone, the resources sector delivered record sales of \$231 billion, and as we’ve seen at the recent Federal Budget, WA continues to be recognised as the economic powerhouse of the nation.”

The State Government indicated an initial pipeline of projects have already been identified, including the Aboriginal Cultural Centre, the Perth Zoo Master Plan, the Remote Aboriginal Communities Fund, and the Perth Concert Hall redevelopment.

The Premier said the RCII will also extend to include transformational projects across WA, to enable companies to collectively contribute to achieving long-term social and economic outcomes in the regions they operate in, in areas such as education and training, health, Aboriginal wellbeing and energy decarbonisation projects.

“I commend the efforts of Rio Tinto, BHP, Hancock Prospecting, Roy Hill, Atlas Iron, Woodside Energy, Chevron Australia and Mineral Resources as foundation partners of the initiative and acknowledge their leadership in contributing to our State in this capacity, which will have lasting benefits for generations,” Mr McGowan said.

“We are proud that the partnership between our government and the resources sector enables us to continue to help make our State an even better place to live.”

ENDS