



14 February 2017

Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

## Mining Lease Granted to Stellar Resources

There is no greater or more consistent supporter of Tasmania's mining industry than the Hodgman Liberal Government.

Today, I was pleased to approve a mining lease for Columbus Metals Limited, a subsidiary of Stellar Resources, over an area of Crown land at Zeehan on the State's West Coast.

Stellar has undertaken extensive exploration activity through its Heemskirk Tin Project and is planning a "fast start" underground development.

Eventually, this could see the mine employing up to 180 people, which would be a great outcome for the industry and for the region.

While there is a long way to go before this project comes to fruition, this is an important step forward and shows that confidence is building in our mining industry.

Only last month we saw the reopened Henty gold mine celebrating its first gold pour and we are also seeing renewed interest in mineral opportunities in Tasmania as world commodity prices improve.

Tasmania's mining industry has a bright future and the Liberal Government is committed to supporting its growth to help create jobs – our number one priority.