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Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

Support package to help boost Tasmanian mineral exploration

A new mining Explorer Support Package will help boost the mining and mineral processing sector as the Tasmanian Government rebuilds the economy.

The mining and mineral processing sector supports about 5,600 Tasmanian jobs, most in regional communities which have been significantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

The Explorer Support Package will support the mining sector and help shore-up the more than \$30 million in royalty and fee payments received from the sector each year that helps fund the services Tasmanians need.

This support package will assist those companies currently exploring in the state to maintain the mining project pipeline which will generate even more jobs and more mining revenue and royalties into the future.

Key elements of the Explorer Support Package include:

- Suspension of rental payments for exploration licences for the next 6 months.
- Exemptions from licence work conditions for up to six months, with fees for these applications waived.
- Application fees for the surrender or extension of term of exploration licences waived for six months.

These measures are in addition to the six-month extension of Exploration Drilling Grant Initiative (EDGI) Round 3 completion dates, the opening of EDGI Round 4 for applications and the freeze on government fee increases for 2020/21 financial year, which we have already announced.

This support will help the mining sector to raise the necessary capital to fund ongoing exploration and get back to full strength faster after experiencing significant impacts like travel restrictions on personnel, supply chain restrictions and low metal and share prices.

Across the state the Tasmanian Liberal Government is supporting our key industry sectors so they can get more Tasmanians into work faster and help local communities rebound and re-build.

For more information go to www.mrt.tas.gov.au