



20 December 2016

Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

Tasmania to host 2017 Women in Resources National Awards

I welcome the announcement that Tasmania will host the 2017 Women in Resources National Awards (WIRNA) as strong recognition for the local resources sector and a boost for regional tourism.

The Awards, now in their fourth year, recognise and celebrate the contributions and achievements of women in Australia's resources sector. Next year's Awards in Launceston will be the first time the event has been held outside a capital city—another win for Tasmania's growing events tourism sector.

Tasmania already has a solid record at the event with Kelly Jane Down of Bell Bay Aluminium winning the Outstanding Australian Tradeswoman, Operator or Technician Award at the 2016 WIRN Awards held in Adelaide, and Kathy George of Total Instrument Controls taking out the same national category in 2014.

With the proportion of women working in our resources sector increasing over the years, awards such as WIRNA help showcase the changing face of the mining sector with high-tech, highly-skilled jobs providing new opportunities to lift the proportion of women in the industry at all levels.

I congratulate the Tasmanian Minerals & Energy Council, its Board and CEO Wayne Bould on their winning bid and encourage businesses and individuals to nominate for the 2017 Tasmanian Women in Resources Awards. Tasmanian award winners will be put forward at the National Awards. Applications can be made at <http://tasminerals.com.au/2017-tasmanian-women-in-resources-awards>

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