



# Media Release

## Senator Alan Eggleston

### Liberal Senator for Western Australia

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#### Premier Barnett shows how negotiations should take place: Eggleston

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Western Australian Premier Colin Barnett's acquisition of \$340 million worth of extra State royalties has demonstrated what can be achieved by tactful, diplomatic and diligent negotiations with the mining industry, says Western Australian Senator Alan Eggleston.

This week the WA Premier, together with BHP and Rio Tinto, successfully secured a significant win for the State with a royalty rate change from 3.75 per cent to 5.625 per cent, as well as a one-off sum of \$350 million that will be spent on Perth's new Children's Hospital.

These new royalties replace the low concessional royalties which the Pilbara mining companies have been charged since the Iron Ore industry was established 40 years ago, in recognition of the infrastructure these companies put into the Pilbara including ports, railways, towns and community facilities.

"This announcement is wonderful news for all Western Australians," said Senator Eggleston.

"The Prime Minister would be wise to look at the way in which Premier Barnett approached these complicated negotiations and at the outcome that was achieved through diplomatic negotiations and reasonable requests rather than mud slinging and irrational demands.

"The recent backlash to the Government's proposed Resource Super Profits Tax demonstrates the Labor Government's inability to adequately consult vital stakeholders and is an indication of their incompetence to hold office," said Senator Eggleston.

Senator Eggleston said the revenue stream attained from the mining industry better serves Australians when kept in State hands and any move to consolidate power in Canberra should be resisted at all costs.

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