

Press Release

19 October 2011

WRM acknowledges and respects native title rights, Aboriginal tradition and Aboriginal sites.

On 21 September 2011, the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) determined that four Mining Lease Applications (MLAs) made by Weld Range Metals (WRM) not be granted by the State Government.

The four MLAs were applied for in 1995 over an area held under mining tenements by WRM since 1986. The MLAs are surrounded by eight Mining Leases already granted to WRM, which are not subject to the NNTT's recent determination. These mining leases adjoin the Sinosteel Midwest Iron Ore Project and WRM expects that any project it develops will be a user of the Oakajee Port and Rail infrastructure.

Although agreement has not yet been reached, WRM has negotiated in good faith with the Wajarri Yamatji people, as confirmed by an earlier determination of the NNTT in December 2010.

The State Government and WRM have lodged appeals with the Federal Court in respect of the NNTT determination. This is a necessary step for WRM given the serious adverse impact the determination has on WRM's interests.

In parallel with the appeal process, WRM will continue to work constructively with the Wajarri Yamatji people and State Government to develop valuable iron, nickel, chrome, platinum resources for all the people of the Geraldton region and WA.