



## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LAND ACCESS WORKING GROUP

Access to private land for resource sector activities

Meeting Communiqué  
Tuesday, 28 February 2017

### **Membership of the Western Australian Land Access Working Group (Working Group)**

Mr Declan Doherty from the Environmental Defender's Office WA was welcomed to the Working Group as a representative of conservation interests.

### **Presentation – Development of the Farming Land Access Agreement Template for the onshore petroleum sector in Western Australia**

Members were provided with a presentation on the development of the 2015 Farming Land Access Agreement Template for petroleum exploration activities under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967*.

The Agreement Template was endorsed by the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, WAFarmers, Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA and vegetablesWA.

The Agreement Template can be found at [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG)

### **Presentation – Land Access Information Paper and Professor Tina Hunter's report (February 2017)**

The Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) provided an overview of a Land Access Information Paper prepared by DMP, that summarises how access to private land for mining and petroleum activities is administered.

The Information Paper can be found at [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG)

Members also noted an overview of Professor Tina Hunter's report (February 2017) entitled *Land access on private land for mineral and petroleum activities – a review of existing provisions in Australian State/Territories and selected overseas jurisdictions*.

Professor Hunter's report considers land access arrangements for private land in twelve jurisdictions, including:

- all Australian states and territories (with the exception of the Australian Capital Territory due to a lack of activity and legal framework);
- New Zealand;
- the United Kingdom; and
- Canada (Alberta, Manitoba, and British Columbia)

Professor Hunter's report can be found at [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG)

## **Western Australian Land Access Working Group - Terms of Reference**

The revised draft terms of reference (inclusive of feedback received at the Working Group meeting held on 15 December 2016) was considered and endorsed by the Working Group.

A copy of the Working Group's terms of reference can be found at [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG)

### **Survey of landholders and resource companies regarding land access agreements for private land**

The Working Group was advised that DMP will be conducting a survey of landholders and resource companies that have entered into a land access agreement for private land within the past ten years, during March/April 2017.

The survey results will assist in gaining a greater understanding of issues experienced in negotiating and implementing land access agreements over private land and the steps taken to resolve them.

The results of the survey will be made available to the Working Group to assist in its deliberations.

### **Western Australian Land Access Working Group – Stakeholder Engagement Strategy**

The Working Group discussed engaging with key stakeholders as essential in making well researched and informed recommendations to Government about improving land access arrangements for resource development on private land, within Western Australia.

The Working Group endorsed the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, which includes details of how it will engage with stakeholders and how they can get involved.

A copy of the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy can be found at [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WALandAccessWG)



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Dr Tim Griffin  
Chair

March 2017

### **WA Land Access Working Group Secretariat**

Telephone: (08) 9222 3215

Email: [LandAccessWA@dmp.wa.gov.au](mailto:LandAccessWA@dmp.wa.gov.au)

