



COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET





# CONTENTS

Recognising excellence and  
leadership in environmental  
management, protection  
and rehabilitation

<b>Message from the Premier</b> .....	1
<b>History of the Golden Gecko Awards</b> .....	2
<b>The Golden Gecko</b> .....	3
<b>15 Years of History</b>	
1992 Awards .....	4
1993 Awards .....	5
1994 Awards .....	6
1995 Awards .....	7
1996 Awards .....	8
1997 Awards .....	9
1998 Awards .....	10
1999 Awards .....	11
2000 Awards .....	12
2001 Awards .....	13
2002 Awards .....	14
2003 Awards .....	15
2004 Awards .....	16
2005 Awards .....	17
2006 Awards .....	18
2006 Award Nominees .....	19

## Environmental Excellence in the Minerals and Petroleum Industries in Western Australia

Cover: Printed on 280gsm Stephen Deep Blue.

Text: Printed on 115gsm Stephen Swiss White.

Stephen is an environmentally friendly stock with 25% post-consumer recycled fibre and 75% sustainable plantation fibre.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



Western Australia is recognised throughout the world for its high standard of environmental management.

The State Government recognises the importance of balancing environmental responsibility with successful development of Western Australia's mineral and petroleum resources.

The Department of Industry and Resources instigated the Golden Gecko Awards in 1992 to recognise environmental excellence and leadership by companies and individuals.

Over the years, the Golden Gecko Awards have grown in stature to become the highest environmental accolade achievable in the Western Australian mineral and petroleum industries.

Environmental management has improved dramatically within the resources industry over the past 15 years and the Golden Gecko Awards have played a major role in progressively lifting standards.

Another benefit has been improved community understanding of environmental practices.

Organisations that receive a Golden Gecko forge a reputation as a corporate leader, with a responsible attitude to the environment. The awards also assist companies to develop employee understanding and ownership of environmental programs.

The Western Australian Government looks forward to continuing its work with the resources sector and industry participants in building on current environmental initiatives.

The Golden Gecko Commemorative Booklet showcases the work of all past award recipients and demonstrates how far the resources sector has come since the awards began.

The booklet also gives companies that have received an award a chance to reflect on their fantastic achievement.

On behalf of the State Government, I applaud the efforts of the award recipients and nominees over the past 15 years.

The Hon Alan Carpenter MLA  
Premier of Western Australia

# HISTORY OF THE GOLDEN GECKO AWARDS



The Golden Gecko Awards have played a significant role in improving environmental excellence in Western Australia's mineral and petroleum sectors.

The inaugural Awards for Environmental Excellence started in 1992 and were renamed the Golden Gecko Awards in 1997.

Department of Industry and Resources Environment General Manager Kim Anderson was pivotal in the creation of the Golden Gecko Awards while at the former Department of Mines.

"There was a national award for environmental excellence in the minerals sector and our former Director General, Lee Ranford, thought it would be good to have an award system here in WA," Ms Anderson said.

"We looked at how the national awards were run, as well as how effective they were at achieving their goals. We then looked at ways of making it better and building a model suitable for WA."

Ms Anderson said the strength of the Golden Gecko Awards came from extensive research carried out by the award's technical panel and DoIR's environmental officers.

She said site inspections and history checks of the nominated companies were used to validate each application, as well as verifying the overall environmental performance of the nominees.

"We wanted to make ours a really comprehensive system and get the technical panel and selection committee members out on site to see first hand what the companies were doing," Ms Anderson said.

"At that time, the national awards didn't always carry out site inspections or verification checks, and we saw this as a possible flaw in their awards system."

The Golden Geckos set out to achieve two major goals. The first was to recognise organisations and individuals who were achieving high standards in environmental management.

"We wanted to highlight companies that made the effort to exceed compliance and achieve better environmental performance," Ms Anderson said.

The second goal was to raise awareness about new environmental developments and innovations and then publicise them so they could be used by others.

"The awards focus on operators who are achieving high environmental standards and reward these people for their efforts," she said.

"They also encourage other operators to raise their level of environmental management.

"Many of the innovative environmental management techniques used by past award recipients are now considered standard environmental practice."

"This achievement confirms the important role of the awards in continuing to encourage excellence in environmental management."



## THE GOLDEN GECKO

The Department of Industry and Resources' environment team adopted the Golden Gecko name and logo because of the relationship that exists between a gecko and the environment.

A gecko is one of the best barometers for the state of an environment as it is regarded as a secondary and tertiary coloniser that lives in leaf litter.

A gecko's habitat takes time to regenerate after land disturbance such as mining. When gecko populations re-establish it proves that an area is, once again, becoming a healthy, functioning ecosystem.

The gecko logo has received high recognition and acceptance within the mineral and petroleum industries.

Award recipients receive a sculpture of a golden gecko, designed by Western Australian artist George Kosturkov.

Mr Kosturkov carves each gecko in polystyrene and then casts it in bronze.

Judges can present more than one Gecko each year because the awards recognise environmental excellence, rather than a competition where projects are rated against each other. Similarly, if no nominations are deemed to have demonstrated environmental excellence, then no award will be given.

A certificate of merit may be awarded to recipients making encouraging efforts towards achieving excellence and leadership in environmental management.

The names of all award and certificate of merit recipients are recorded on a perpetual sculpture displayed in the Department of Industry and Resources' head office at 100 Plain Street, East Perth.

# 15 YEARS OF HISTORY

## 1992 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- Alcoa of Australia
- Normandy Poseidon
- CRA Exploration
- Hadson Energy
- WAPET

### **Certificates of Merit:**

- Forsayth Mining Services
- Robe River Iron Associates
- BHP Iron Ore
- Pancontinental Mining
- WAPET

Western Australia's resources industry has changed significantly since the Golden Gecko Awards started in 1992.

In the opening year of the awards, demand for Western Australia's mineral products were low, as were commodity prices.

In fact, in 1992, the State produced 108 million tonnes of iron ore, half of 2005's total (216 million tonnes).

Alcoa of Australia earned an award for its visionary decision to establish a permanent wetland system on the Swan Coastal Plain.

Since 1992, the company has nurtured and carefully managed the Wellard Wetlands as it matures to become a self-sustaining wetland. Alcoa's Wellard Wetland lakes and surrounding vegetation provide habitat for more than 101 bird species, including 38 waterbird species. More than 1000 water birds frequent the lakes in autumn when other seasonal wetland areas are dry.

CRA Exploration was awarded a Golden Gecko for its commitment to minimise the impact of exploration activities in the vicinity of Rudall River National Park. The selection committee commended the company for producing instructional videos explaining activities for the resident Aboriginal community and for working in partnership with the State Government.

Normandy Poseidon was honoured for adopting a pro-active attitude towards environmental management at its Jubilee mine.

The selection committee praised the company for supporting rehabilitation research conducted by MERIWA. Normandy adopted MERIWA's research to meet specific requirements of the site.

Hadson Energy received recognition for re-designing a drill rig at its Tanami Well Site without impacting on the environment. The company chose to virtually re-design the drill rig and adopted innovative techniques for both re-circulating mud and constructing foundations for the drill rig.

West Australian Petroleum (WAPET) was awarded a Gecko for its commitment to environmental management at Barrow Island and nearby offshore oilfields. The operation required a commitment to sound environmental management from all employees and the support of the Board of West Australian Petroleum Pty Ltd.

# 1993 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Western Mining Corporation
- Hill 50 Gold Mine
- BHP Iron Ore
- Woodside Offshore Petroleum

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- CSR Readymix
- Hadson Energy

Western Australia's mineral and petroleum industry went through a trying time in 1993.

Gold was the only sector where demand exceeded supply. Most commodity prices continued to fall because of the recession in economic activity in the world's major manufacturing countries.

However, with economic recovery in sight, industry leaders predicted fewer mine closures.

The first production from the Nifty copper mine started in 1993.

The selection committee handed out four Golden Geckos in the second year of the awards.

Western Mining Corporation's (WMC) rehabilitation of its Kambalda exploration site showcased the company's dedication to environmental management and lifted the standard of environmental practices in the exploration sector.

The selection committee praised WMC, which was taken over by BHP Billiton in 2005, for developing a drill-hole capping device and modifying machinery at the site.

BHP Iron Ore received a special minister's award for its decision to close and rehabilitate the entire Goldsworthy townsite, associated abandoned mine waste dumps and industrial complex. The company, which received a Certificate of Merit in 1992, undertook the work of its own volition after purchasing the abandoned mine as there was no regulatory requirement to rehabilitate the area.

Woodside Offshore Petroleum commenced baseline studies on the Burrup North West Shelf gas project site in 1972, eight years before the operation was commissioned.

The company continued its commitment through a program that included monitoring flora, fauna and atmospheric emissions, feral animal eradication programs and surveys to identify sites of Aboriginal significance.

Hill 50 Gold Mine was rewarded for developing a program which successfully rehabilitated numerous abandoned and current workings to stable, self-sustaining ecosystems.



# 1994 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Rally Revegetation Services
- CSR Readymix

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- WAPET

Western Australia's mineral exploration expenditure increased 20 per cent in 1994 and the outlook for 1995 appeared positive.

The value of the State's mining and petroleum industry reached \$12.9 billion while production started at Hamersley Iron's Marandoo iron ore mine in the Pilbara and the Bronzewing gold mine, 400 km north of Kalgoorlie.

Rally Revegetation Services (now Rally Environmental) was awarded a Golden Gecko for revolutionising rehabilitation seeding and making mine rehabilitation cost effective with its Nurally Seeder.

Managing Director Ray Gerrard designed the Nurally Seeder in 1992. Environmental experts were immediately impressed that the seeder could be placed on the back of any size dozer.

"The mining industry was trying to make the seeding of rehabilitated mines more efficient and the seeder provided it with the perfect vehicle," Mr Gerrard said.

While the Nurally Seeder won Rally Revegetation a Golden Gecko, the company's work contributed to other mining companies receiving the prestigious award.

Mr Gerrard said Rally Environmental revegetates around 2000 hectares a year in Western Australia and Queensland.

"The seeders have advanced significantly since 1992, with the use of modern electronics making the seeders more efficient and more dozer-operator aware," he said.

After receiving a Certificate of Merit in 1993, CSR Readymix was presented with a Golden Gecko for a first-class environmental management program at its Jandakot sand quarry.

The company approached the project by commissioning the preparation of a site-specific environmental management plan which was subsequently incorporated into the quarry operating conditions.

Rehabilitation work, including hiring environmental consultants, was funded through a rehabilitation levy which was allocated as percentage of product sales.

# 1995 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Hamersley Iron
- Arimco Mining
- BHP Petroleum

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- Worsley Alumina

Western Australia's resources industry experienced a major highlight in 1995 with the State becoming Australia's leading oil producer.

The value of petroleum production rose by 20 per cent and accounted for about a quarter of Western Australia's total minerals and energy production.

The resources sector continued to underpin the State's economy, accounting for 70 per cent of its exports.

Hamersley Iron was honoured with a Golden Gecko in 1995 for extensively rehabilitating a road and rail link between Dampier and Paraburdoo.

Hamersley's Aboriginal Training and Liaison Department (ATAL) carried out the rehabilitation work which was part of a long-term plan to return the region to its original condition.

Under the guidance of Hamersley's environmental officers, the ATAL trainees focused on disturbances along the company's 386 km rail and road corridor and spur lines.

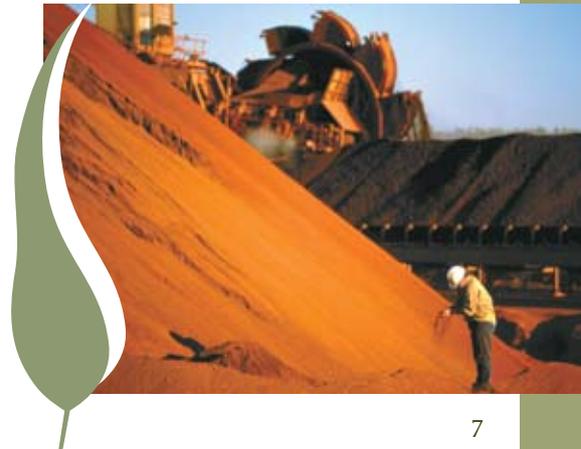
ATAL, which started in 1992, continued its exceptional environmental management work, with Hamersley Iron receiving another Gecko in 1998.

The selection committee acknowledged Arimco Mining for its environmental management program at the Gidgee Gold Mine.

The company's high operating standards reflected a commitment beyond compliance. The standards were achieved by the workforce developing an attitude of ownership of the environment and maintaining a strong commitment throughout the company.

BHP Petroleum received recognition for developing a Geographical Information System (GIS) and Environmental Resource Atlas, as a basis for managing petroleum exploration on the North West Shelf.

Although the company wasn't actively drilling in the area, it compiled the GIS and atlas as a tool for its environmental management of exploration activities, oil spill response and contingency planning in the area.



# 1996 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Alcoa of Australia
- Rod Mitchell's Transport and Exploration Services
- Harry Butler

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- Dominion Mining Limited

Confidence in Western Australia's resources industry was high in 1996 with the number of prospective investment projects at record levels.

For the second consecutive year, petroleum was the State's most valuable resource, rising by 24 per cent from 1995.

Other sectors were mixed. The nickel industry suffered from low prices, mineral sands continued its solid recovery, while the iron ore industry stagnated. Gold production increased by 11 per cent.

Celebrity environmentalist Harry Butler became the first individual to receive a Golden Gecko in 1996.

Dr Butler was honoured for his major contribution to environmental management and the incorporation of environmental management into corporate policy in Western Australia's mineral and petroleum industries.

For many years Dr Butler, author and presenter of long running television series *In the Wild*, used his public image and community contacts to introduce the concept of multiple land use and environmental management at a practical level.

The selection committee made mention of Dr Butler's extensive work at Barrow Island.

Alcoa of Australia received its second award for developing an environmental and mining information system. The system gave Alcoa the ability to include environmental issues at the mine planning stage.

Rod Mitchell's Transport and Exploration Services was awarded a Gecko for rehabilitating exploration drill sites in the Pilbara.

The selection committee praised the company's attention to detail and use of innovative techniques which resulted in excellent rehabilitation on sites previously believed to be unworkable.



# 1997 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Kings Park and Botanic Garden Plant Science Laboratory
- Lindsay Stockdale
- BHP Petroleum

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- Argyle Diamond Mines,
- Robe River Iron Associates,
- Plutonic Resources,
- Arminco Mining.
- Titan Resources, Ecologia Environmental Consultants, Resolute Limited

Western Australia's mineral and petroleum industry experienced a healthy growth rate in 1997 with production value exceeding \$17 billion — more than double the total a decade earlier.

Petroleum continued to grow as the State's leading resource while gold and crude oil decreased in value of production.

Long-time Goldfields prospector Lindsay Stockdale received one of the biggest thrills of his life when the selection committee awarded him a Golden Gecko for his commitment to managing small mining operations around Kalgoorlie with limited resources.

Mr Stockdale said the Golden Gecko, along with winning an apprentice of the year award as a teenage carpenter, were his greatest work achievements.

"Winning a Gecko was great, I just couldn't believe it," said Mr Stockdale, who has spent all of his life on the Eastern Goldfields.

Mr Stockdale, now 61, started prospecting in 1975 through the influence of his brother-in-law Dan Mulchay.

His commitment to environmental management set a high standard for the prospecting industry and he remains passionate about environmental management.

"The general public has to be assured that we're environmentally conscious — it's so important," Mr Stockdale said.

BHP Petroleum was presented with its second Golden Gecko in three years after adopting an ecological approach to environmental management within the petroleum industry.

The company joined forces with the Australian Institute of Marine Science to produce an environmental resource atlas of the Big Bank Shoals of the Timor Sea. The atlas documents important baseline information and is a valuable tool for assessing environmental impacts associated with future proposals for the area.

The Kings Park and Botanic Garden Plant Science Laboratory team was rewarded for using science and technology to develop conservation techniques specifically tailored to improve the rehabilitation of post-mined vegetation.



## 1998 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- Perilya Mines
- Mobil Exploration and Producing Australia
- Hamersley Iron

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- Hamersley Iron
- Placer (Granny Smith)
- Resolute Limited

Western Australia's nickel industry recorded its sixth increase in 1998 with the State accounting for 99 per cent of Australia's total production.

In contrast to what most other sectors experienced, iron ore production fell. Unseasonably wet weather in the middle of the year was a contributing factor.

While the resources sector experienced many highs, native title issues continued to be a major concern to the industry.

After receiving a Golden Gecko in 1995, Hamersley Iron's Aboriginal Training and Liaison Department (ATAL) gained the mining giant a second in 1998 for rehabilitating current and historic exploration areas held by Pilbara Iron.

ATAL kept up with technology after its first award. The group's implementation of Global Positioning System (GPS) plotters was crucial to Hamersley receiving its second Golden Gecko.

The GPS technology reduced operator exposure to hazards associated with walking in virgin bushland to locate marker pegs on foot. It also decreased the time for operators trying to find proposed drill pads.

Perilya Mines' NL Fortnum Gold Operations was honoured for its holistic approach to environmental management. Fortnum, in partnership with Methodist Ladies College, demonstrated an excellent culture and work ethic throughout the operation to achieve continual improvement in environmental management issues.

Mobil Exploration and Producing Australia received a Gecko for achieving international industry best practice at its Wandoo B offshore oil platform. The company adopted a 'reduce, reuse and recycle' principle in the planning stage and carried it through to the operational facility.

## 1999 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- Placer (Granny Smith)
- Iluka Resources
- Epic Energy

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- Anaconda Operations
- Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation (Ruggies Mineral Industry Recycling)

Western Australia's resources sector showed resilience in 1999 to generate near record values in petroleum and minerals despite it being a tough year for the industry.

The overwhelming reason for negative growth was low global commodity prices coupled with inconsistent economic conditions in overseas markets.

After receiving a Certificate of Merit in 1998, Placer was awarded a Golden Gecko for an outstanding approach to environmental management at its Granny Smith Gold Mine, near Laverton.

The selection committee commended the company for its sustainability policy which improved cultural relations and showed a commitment to the Laverton community.

Iluka Resources, formerly Westralian Sands, received an award for an outstanding environmental approach while working through the constraints placed on it by the redevelopment of the Wonnerup-Tutunup Road.

The company upgraded an existing minor country road to accommodate the haulage of heavy mineral concentrate from its mine without impacting on the high value ironstone plant communities in the road reserve.

The selection committee was impressed by the level of consultation with government regulators, community and special interest groups and local residents.

Epic Energy was presented with a Golden Gecko for its environmental work while constructing a gas pipeline on the Burrup Peninsula.

Epic Energy constructed the pipeline in an area world renowned for its environmental and cultural values.

The attention to specific details such as the handling and replacement of Red Rock, the innovative inclusion of local Aborigines as rangers and the preservation of the vast number of rock carvings drew praise from the judges.

## 2000 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- Placer (Granny Smith)
- Cockburn Cement
- Alcoa World Alumina Australia
- Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- North Mining Limited and Westralian Diamond Drillers
- Barrow Island Coastal Care Group

Western Australia's minerals and energy sector rose by 50 per cent in 2000 to reach a record \$25.7 billion.

The significant growth was mainly attributed to increased performance by the petroleum sector and the general improvement in commodity prices.

Placer received its second consecutive Golden Gecko for work at its Granny Smith Gold Mine, one of the largest gold deposits in the north-eastern Goldfields.

Placer implemented a participative planning process at its Wallaby project to deal with environmental, heritage and community impacts.

Alcoa was awarded its second Golden Gecko for its thorough and innovative land management program at the company's Pinjarra alumina refinery.

Alcoa communicated extensively with the local community and the resulting systems and practices developed by the company greatly improved the surrounding area, including Fairbridge farm and village.

The company's extensive work allowed a range of useful activities to return to the land.

Research by scientists from The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority succeeded in developing a process to remove buffel grass from Airlie Island, offshore from Onslow, and revegetate the area. The eradication of buffel grass, which is a pernicious and invasive weed has been a priority for many years.

The knowledge gained by the authority has been applied to other parts of Australia with similar problems.

Cockburn Cement was awarded a Golden Gecko for seagrass transplanting in Owen Anchorage and Success Bank.

The selection committee commended Cockburn Cement for its leading-edge work and attention to detail. The company's work contributed significantly to scientific understanding of seagrass ecosystems and showed how industry can successfully rehabilitate fragile environments.

## 2001 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- Homestake Gold of Australia
- WA Museum/Woodside Energy

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- Homestake Plutonic Gold
- Victor Dale

After a dramatic rise in commodity output in 2000, Western Australia's resources industry recorded moderate gains in 2001.

In 2001, the Department of Industry and Resources celebrated the tenth year of the Golden Gecko Awards. Since the start of the awards mineral and petroleum production had more than doubled while environmental practices continued to advance.

Homestake Gold of Australia received an award for its systematic approach towards the closure of five mine sites.

The comprehensive system involved a multi-layered approach including planning, auditing, accruals, reclamation and monitoring, at levels well above compliance requirements.

Homestake Gold's system demonstrated strong environmental management and the selection committee also commended the company for its communication of the system to the entire industry.

The company's approach enabled the industry to meet the community's high expectations of mine closure and rehabilitation of the natural environment.

WA Museum and Woodside Energy were awarded a Golden Gecko for their strategic research into marine biodiversity within the Dampier Archipelago.

The research, which continues to draw world-wide interest, set new standards for establishing baseline knowledge and was of immense value to Western Australia and the international scientific community.

The program involved collecting data and samples by diving, dredging, laboratory analysis and providing information at an international workshop.

The data and information collected was invaluable for planning and assessing future development in the archipelago.



# 2002 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Alcoa World Alumina of Australia
- Esperance Port Authority
- LionOre Australia (Nickel) Ltd

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- Simcoa Operations Pty Ltd and Ms Sally Robinson of Strategic Environmental Solutions
- Woodside Energy

With the exception of gold, nickel and oil, commodity prices decreased during 2002 due to lethargic world economic conditions.

Western Australia's resources sector achieved records in production values for some mineral and petroleum commodities including oil, alumina, nickel and iron ore.

Alcoa's Golden Gecko in 2002 was just reward for a company that had gone above and beyond what was expected in mine site rehabilitation.

Alcoa spent more than 15 years re-establishing young jarrah forests with plant species richness equal to the surrounding native forest following bauxite mining in the south west of the State.

Alcoa Mining Environmental Manager John Gardner said the company was aiming for 100 per cent rehabilitation of the mined area.

"In our latest monitoring we achieved 96 per cent of the plant species richness value of the unmined jarrah forest," he said.

Alcoa's work earned the company its second Golden Gecko in three years.

Esperance Port Authority received recognition for implementing innovative environmental controls while upgrading its facilities. This included consideration of the aesthetics of the infrastructure to reduce visual impacts and the use of engineering devices to suppress noise and dust.

The authority initially faced significant community resistance. However, extensive planning and community consultation enabled the authority to complete the major upgrade which helped accommodate increasing iron ore and grain exports.

The selection committee praised the authority for establishing a world-class port facility while maintaining the area's social and environmental values.

LionOre Australia (Nickel) was awarded a Golden Gecko for its environmental attitude when developing the Emily Ann mine, west of Norseman.

The selection committee commended LionOre for setting a new industry standard for mine planning, construction and operation despite being a relatively small company with limited resources.

The company's multi-disciplined team conducted detailed research and planning to ensure environmental issues were included in the mine's construction and operation phases. Comprehensive safety, health and environment systems were also established prior to the development of the mine.

# 2003 AWARDS

## **Award Recipients:**

- Apache Energy Limited
- Beenup Consultative Group
- Barrick Gold of Australia

## **Certificate of Merit:**

- Wesfarmers Premier Coal
- Robe River Iron Associates
- Barrick Gold of Australia
- Woodside Energy

A key feature of Western Australia's resources sector in 2003 was the range of new iron ore projects brought on by increasing commodity demands from China.

The total value of resources sales in Western Australia fell slightly in 2003, mainly as a result of lower petroleum sales.

A landfill management creation, designed by Bob Bellingham, secured Barrick Gold of Australia a Golden Gecko in 2003.

The selection committee praised the innovation for its simplicity in solving a common problem on mine sites.

Barrick Gold provided a solution to the ongoing problem of poorly planned, ineffective and environmentally unacceptable landfill facilities by designing a landfill cage, now known as the Bellan Cage.

The cage was first used on Barrick Gold's Lawler mine site in the East Murchison Goldfields. The cage provided a simple but effective solution that contained rubbish, deterred scavenging animals and reduced odours around the landfill area.

Apache Energy was rewarded for its excellent environmental practices while installing an offshore pipeline when developing the Victoria oil field, off the State's northwest coast.

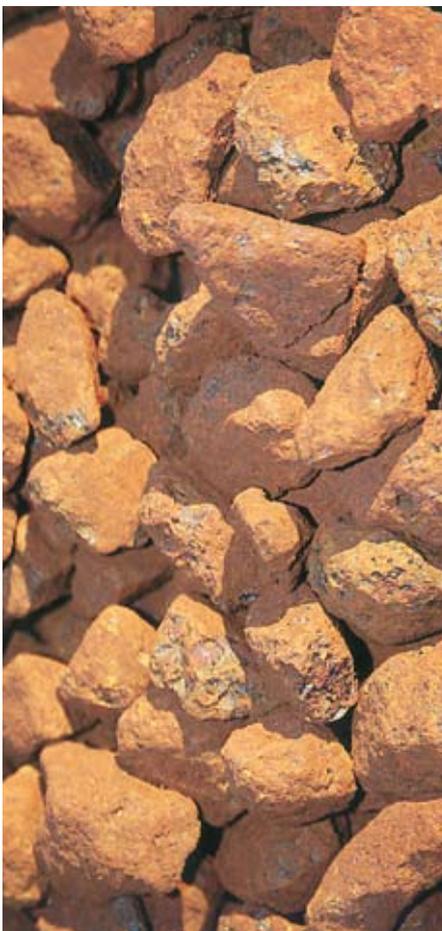
The company incorporated innovative and state-of-the-art survey techniques, rigorous procedural controls and high-level management to the project, resulting in minimal disturbance to seabed communities.

The company committed substantial technical and staff resources to the project, ensuring environmental targets were achieved during the installation of the mini-platform and 5.4 kilometres of subsea pipeline in a sensitive and shallow marine environment.

Beenup Consultative Group received a Golden Gecko for implementing an interactive community consultation process while rehabilitating the Beenup mineral sands mine.

The group played an extremely influential role in the mine's closure and ongoing rehabilitation. The exceptional long-term commitment of the group ensured their environmental concerns were addressed.

Beenup set a new standard for community consultation in the mining industry by organising participatory planning to achieve outcomes that satisfied all its stakeholders.



## 2004 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- BHP Billiton Iron Ore and CSIRO
- Newmont Bronzewing Operations

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- ARC Energy Limited
- BHP Billiton Iron Ore
- Woodside Energy

In 2004, Western Australia's resources industry experienced thriving international commodity prices along with record sales of iron ore, salt, cobalt and manganese.

Driven by demand from China, iron ore sales reached record levels for the fifth consecutive year. Nickel was the State's second most valuable mineral sector after iron ore. The two commodities were major factors in Western Australia's mineral and petroleum sales increasing by six per cent to a record \$28.4 billion.

BHP Billiton Iron Ore and CSIRO received a Golden Gecko for using hyperspectral remote sensing technology to monitor iron ore dust at the mining giant's facilities in Port Hedland.

The two companies successfully developed a more effective method to monitor iron ore dust which led to the identification of dust hot spots and enabled the implementation of a more effective dust suppression system.

Despite an increased throughput of iron ore at Port Hedland, ambient dust levels have decreased.

Newmont Bronzewing Operations was awarded a Golden Gecko for setting a new benchmark in the closure, planning and decommissioning of mine sites.

Newmont agreed to fully decommission and rehabilitate the Mt McClure Gold Mine, in the north-eastern Goldfields, rather than take a divestment option.

The key to the outstanding result at Mt McClure was the genuine and dynamic partnerships developed and nurtured primarily by the Newmont-McClure management team. All parties shared the vision of creating the best possible outcome.

The closure planning and rehabilitation at Mt McClure was a showcase for industry to emulate.

## 2005 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- BP Refinery Kwinana
- Wesfarmers Premier Coal

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- Woodside Energy
- BHP Billiton and URS Australia

Boom conditions were experienced in 2005 with the State's petroleum and mineral resources reaching \$38.9 billion, a rise of 37 per cent.

The State continued to prove it was the powerhouse of the resources industry not only in Australia but for the entire Asia-Pacific region.

Significant increases in sales for the petroleum and iron ore sectors were the main reasons for the State's success. The two industries accounted for two-thirds of Western Australia's total resources commodity output.

BP Refinery Kwinana received an award for becoming the world's first company to apply a filter on a residue cracking unit.

The filter captures particulates as a jet of flue gas passes over 1000 sintered, stainless steel filter elements. A second jet of air blows back through the system and dislodges the particulates for recovery.

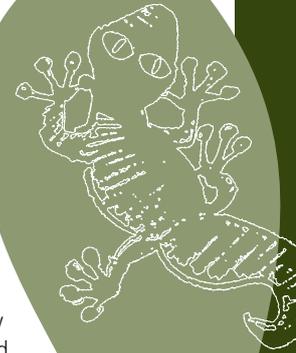
Although already below regulatory limits, the initiative reduced particulate emissions by 74 per cent and set a dramatically higher and cleaner benchmark for the global refining industry to meet.

Wesfarmers Premier Coal was honoured for its leadership in sustainable development.

The company set a new environmental standard by establishing assets of lasting social, economic and environmental value at its old open cut pits in the Collie region.

Wesfarmers demonstrated its commitment to sustainability principles with three innovative rehabilitation programs which included the development of:

- a recreational lake
- a motor sports and driver training complex
- an aquaculture precinct for research and economic development





## 2006 AWARDS

### **Award Recipients:**

- Sons of Gwalia Ltd
- Jo Jo Plastics and Ruggies Recycling

### **Certificate of Merit:**

- Alcoa of Australia was awarded Certificates of Merit for two separate projects.

In line with a positive global economy, Western Australia's resources sector continued to flourish in 2006 with a wide-range of mineral and petroleum projects either committed or under consideration during the year.

With more than \$58 billion worth of projects, the State was regarded as the most progressive resources development area in the Asia-Pacific region.

The year also saw a series of legislative changes which were aimed at streamlining project approvals in Western Australia.

The old approvals process had been one of the biggest areas of concern for the resources sector, especially the time it took prospective proponents to bring new projects to the fruition.

Jo Jo Plastics and Ruggies Recycling was recognised for a program which collected, shredded, removed and bagged black plastic pipe materials from mine sites, predominately in the Goldfields.

The pipe had previously been buried on site or accumulated in dumps as contaminated waste. The recycled pipe is used to produce products including posts and bollards.

Sons of Gwalia was awarded a Golden Gecko for its operation titled Greenbushes Mine Rehabilitation – The Changing Landscape. Reflecting Our Past, Present and Future.

After starting in 1888 Greenbushes Mine, 250km south of Perth, is the State's oldest continually mined deposit.

The company has worked closely with the community from the 1980s to implement a program to identify and progressively rehabilitate the historic mine's workings. The program led to a successful rehabilitation and provided positive environmental, social and economic benefits for the community.



## 2006 AWARD NOMINEES



Alcoa of Australia

Argyle Diamonds

BHP Billiton Iron Ore

Birla Nifty Pty Ltd, MBS Environmental,  
GasNet Australia, McConnell Dowell

Iluka Resources Limited

Jo Jo Plastics & Ruggies Recycling – PMH Foundation

Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines (KCGM)

LionOre Australia Pty Ltd

Newcrest Mining Ltd

Pilbara Iron

Shell Development (Australia) Pty Ltd and Greening Australia (WA)

Sons of Gwalia Ltd – Greenbushes Operation

Tiwist Cooljarloo









