



The Hon Chris Hartcher
Minister for Resources and Energy
Special Minister of State
Minister for the Central Coast

MEDIA RELEASE

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**NSW GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES NEW
MINE REHABILITATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Resources Minister Chris Hartcher today announced the creation of a new Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Council to examine best practice mine rehabilitation and sustainable land use.

Mr Hartcher said the NSW Government was working to implement a framework that encourages mining companies to leave the landscape in which they operate in the same or better condition than before they started their operations.

“We envisage that prevailing land uses such as agriculture, grazing or vineyards are just as productive once a mining operation ceases than they were prior to the activity,” Mr Hartcher said.

“I have consistently encouraged the highest standards of the resources industry.

“With the assistance of the new Council, the Government will continue working to increase community awareness of remediation outcomes so that the public can have greater confidence that mining will not leave a legacy for future generations to manage.”

The Council will review rehabilitation projects and processes to ensure sustainable long term land uses, and will also have oversight of the Derelict Mines program.

“The NSW Government has been left with a legacy of over 580 mines with significant safety and environmental issues,” Mr Hartcher said.

“The administrative levy announced in the 2012/13 Budget directs increased funding to derelict mines to ensure a faster rate of rehabilitation.”