



The Hon Anthony Roberts MP

Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy

MEDIA RELEASE

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MINES RESCUE CHALLENGE

Minister for Resources and Energy Anthony Roberts has praised all those taking part this weekend in a unique event in Australia, the Mine Rescue Challenge at Cobar.

The challenge, the first since 2011, involves a record ten teams made up of volunteers from mines around NSW including, Orange, Mudgee, Broken Hill and Cobar.

The challenge is unique in the way it is conducted, with organisers setting out complex emergency scenarios for the teams that can include an underground mine wall collapse, plant or underground fires and falls from heights – all designed around teams coaching and assisting each other to complete the tasks.

Mr Roberts said around 300 people will be involved, including competitors, team managers and volunteers.

“NSW has a world class safety record in mining – thanks in no small part to the dedication of those who oversee safety in our mines,” Mr Roberts said.

“Mines rescue teams are made up of volunteers from mines around NSW who give their time, skills and experience to ensure the safety of their workmates.

“The concept of the Mines Rescue Challenge is to recreate real-life situations that rescue teams could face.

“During a rescue scenario on a mine site, teams from various sites across NSW may be called to work for one common purpose.

“The safety and health performance of the NSW mining industry is a priority for the NSW Government and I would like to congratulate the participants, the judges and the organisers of the Mines Rescue Challenge.”

Awards are given based on the skills that are shown and how the teams have interacted.

The Mines Rescue Challenge will be held on 1-3 May at Ward Oval, Cobar.