



**Brad Hazzard MP**

**Minister for Planning & Infrastructure**

**Anthony Roberts MP**

**Minister for Resources & Energy**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS WARKWORTH DECISION**

The Government will consider the implications of today's Court of Appeal decision on Rio Tinto's Warkworth project application.

"The mining sector told us that recent court decisions, including the Land and Environment Court decision, had created uncertainty," NSW Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

"The Government joined in the appeal on procedural grounds."

"In NSW all major mining projects are comprehensively assessed on their merits with extensive consultation with the community and other Government agencies."

"Major mining developments in NSW are determined at arm's length of Government by the independent Planning Assessment Commission."

NSW Resources and Energy Minister Anthony Roberts said mining supports thousands of families across the state.

"The mining sector provides career opportunities - often in regional areas where job prospects are limited," Mr Roberts said.

"The billions paid in royalties each year help pay for roads, nurses, schools and other services that NSW needs.

"The NSW Government ensures the significance of a resource and its economic benefits are properly considered in the assessment process.

"The significance of a resource is not determined by mining companies but by the Department of Resources and Energy," Mr Roberts said.

Planning and Infrastructure (P&I) has advised that Rio Tinto has requested Director-General's Requirements for the environmental assessment of its proposal to expand its Mt Thorley and Warkworth mining operations.

No formal development application has been received by P&I.

Any applications that are received will be assessed on their merits with full public and stakeholder consultation.