



# **The Hon Chris Hartcher**

## **Minister for Resources and Energy**

### **Special Minister of State**

### **Minister for the Central Coast**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Tuesday 20 November 2012

### **URANIUM EXPLORATION SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED**

The NSW Government has received 39 Expressions of Interest to explore for uranium in NSW following the proclamation of legislation to overturn the 26 year ban on uranium exploration.

Resources Minister Chris Hartcher said the applications to apply for exploration licences will be assessed by an expert panel, who will make recommendations to the Government.

“On the basis of the applications received individuals, companies or consortia will be invited to apply for an exploration licence on the basis of the best interests of the State,” Mr Hartcher said.

A list of submissions will be compiled to gain the Minister’s consent to apply for an Exploration Licence for Group 11 Minerals, which includes uranium and thorium.

“This is a new area of exploration and a new opportunity to create an industry which will give the State’s economy a real boost. It is time for NSW to look at every opportunity to join the mining boom which is delivering enormous profits and jobs to Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia,” Mr Hartcher said.

The list of applicants is available at: <http://www.resources.nsw.gov.au/titles/uranium-exploration/tenders>