

New Frontiers Cooperative Drilling Program

The [New Frontiers Cooperative Drilling Program](#) is a part of the NSW government’s New Frontiers exploration initiative which will assist exploration companies to fast track their exploration drilling programs. The program will fund up to 50% of direct drilling costs for individual projects (up to \$200 000 per project) with a total allocation of \$2 million in the 2013–14 financial year.

The NSW government is calling for submissions from exploration companies for drilling programs which demonstrate advanced prospectivity, sound financial planning and a proven technical base. An expert advisory panel will assess applications on the basis of merit, in terms of their geoscientific and exploration potential. Supported drilling programs may be in greenfield regions, areas of inadequate previous exploration, or may test new geological concepts. The entire process will be overseen by a probity auditor.

[An Expression of Interest form is available online](#)

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NSW Statewide Mineral Resource Audit

The NSW Statewide Mineral Resource Audit was completed in March 2013. The audit is the outcome of a seven year project to compile information on the location and nature of all state and regionally significant (non-energy) resources for use in land use planning. Data packages have been provided to all local councils and the Department of Planning & Infrastructure. The data is also being used to inform a broad range of plans and strategies currently being developed through strategic regional land use planning in NSW. Information on coal and petroleum resources will be incorporated into the audit as an energy supplement as data becomes available.

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Online systems enhancement

[MinView](#) has new links to environmental reports from the Current Titles layer. On using the 'Select a map region to query' tool, the resulting attribute table for Current Titles now includes a dedicated field with a link to all related environmental reports. Clicking on this link goes directly to the report in the DIGS online database.



Current Mineral Titles 3 feature(s)												
	Title Code	Title No.	DIGS Reports	Env. Reports	Act Year	Company	Grant Date	Expiry Date	Renewal Date	Minerals	Groups	Area
View	EL	8011	EL8011	EL8011	992	THOMSON RESOURCES LTD	21 Nov 2012	21 Nov 2014	21 Nov 2012	Group 1	GROUP1	100 UNITS
View	EL	6339	EL6339	EL6339	992	ARK MINES LIMITED	09 Nov 2004	08 Nov 2012	Renewal Sought	Group 1	GROUP1	11 UNITS
View	EL	7809	EL7809	EL7809	992	KENILWORTH EXPLORATION PTY LTD	13 Jul 2011	13 Jul 2013	Renewal Sought	Group 1	GROUP1	70 UNITS

Results of a MinView spatial search showing dedicated field with links to all related environmental reports

Petroleum/Energy Projects & Exploration Highlights map 2013

The free A3 [Petroleum/Energy Projects & Exploration Highlights in NSW map](#) has been updated and shows recent energy and petroleum exploration in NSW up to May 2013. Current projects and prospect details are presented for conventional petroleum (oil and gas), coal seam methane (CSM), carbon capture and storage, and geothermal energy. The map can be downloaded online or ordered by emailing mineralpublication.orders@industry.nsw.gov.au

List of bore core accepted at Mineral Resources core libraries

View a [list of non-confidential bore core accepted at the WB Clarke Geoscience Centre](#), Londonderry, July 2012 – May 2013. No core was accepted at the EC Andrews drill core facility, Broken Hill.

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Mines & Wines 2013 conference, Orange, 11–14 September

[Mines & Wines 2013](#) conference will cover case histories of exploration projects in the eastern Australian Tasmanides. The pre-conference excursion will visit the Copper Hill porphyry copper–gold deposit (Golden Cross Resources) and the Somerville fossil and mineral collection in Bathurst. There will be a post conference wine tour to local vineyards.

Geoscience Information Gateway

The Geoscience Information Gateway (GIG) is a developing project which will provide a single, integrated spatial and textual access to data presently available through the online services of DIGS[®], MinView, GPC and GDW.

It extends the COGENT II Geoscience Data Management Project, which centralises and standardises all the department's geoscientific data collections. It aims to provide a state of the art web portal that takes advantage of modern web technologies.

Main features of the portal will be:

- both a spatial and a textual search of the department's data, records and documents
- customisation of a user's maps using a large range of data on a variety of base maps and state of the art tools
- storage and/or download of customised maps
- download of data files
- user feedback and enhanced communication

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Captains Flat–Michelago geological mapping project

Work to date on the [Captains Flat–Michelago geological mapping project](#) includes:

- Completion of 1:50 000 field mapping of middle to Late Silurian basin sequences of the Captains Flat belt across the Canberra and Michelago 1:100 000 map sheet areas and compilation of a 1:50 000 thematic 'special' map
- Geophysical interpretation of parts of the Canberra and Michelago 1:100 000 map sheet areas
- Drill core investigation
- Geochronology sampling
- Reconnaissance mapping of the structure and stratigraphy of the Bredbo Group, the metamorphic and plutonic rocks to the south and west of the Captain Flat belt, the Campbells Group of the southern Hill End Trough, and the Captains Flat sequences to the west. This includes comparative studies between the last two groups.

[View a detailed update on the project with new findings and future work plans](#)

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John Greenfield (Chief Geologist), john.greenfield@industry.nsw.gov.au, 02 4931 6728

East Riverina mapping project

Work to date on the [East Riverina mapping project](#) includes:

- Commencement of audit and gaps review prior to regional mapping from 2014
- Completion of [hydrogeochemical sampling](#) and receipt of analyses from the first trip
- Geochronological sampling and submission to Geoscience Australia SHRIMP facility
- Start of Aster, K–Th–U and DEM data reprocessing and analysis
- Ongoing mineral systems studies focussing on Ardlathan tin deposit
- Completion of [mineral prospectivity study of the Wagga Tin Belt](#) by the Centre for Exploration Targeting CRC
- Start of the [Riverina Gravity Survey](#) data processing

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Mount Oxley and Coolabah geological mapping project

Work to date on the [Mount Oxley and Coolabah geological mapping project](#) includes:

- [Presentation on new results from the Mount Oxley 1:100 000 map sheet at EITH2013](#)
- Near completion of preliminary maps for Mount Oxley and Coolabah 1:100 000 map sheets
- Preparation of explanatory notes for each of the map sheets

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Record attendance at Exploration in the House 2013

The Hon. Chris Hartcher, Minister for Resources and Energy, welcomed almost 200 mineral explorers and geoscientists from across Australia to 'Exploration in the House' at Parliament House, Sydney on 18th June. Topics covered included the NSW resource audit, evolution of the Thomson Orogen, mapping around Goulburn and Mount Oxley–Coolabah areas and preliminary results from the East Riverina mapping project. Online access to NSW geoscience data using the Geoscientific Data Warehouse, Geoscience Product Catalogue and maps for mobile devices were demonstrated and the [New Frontiers Cooperative Drilling](#) program was launched. [View selected technical talks online.](#)

Upcoming conferences

[ASEG–PESA 23rd International Geophysical Conference 11–14 August, Melbourne](#)
[Mines & Wines 2013, 11–14 September, Orange](#)
[Mining 2013 Resources Convention, 23–25 October, Brisbane](#)
[China Mining 2013, 2–5 November, Tianjin, China](#)
[Coastal Conference, 12–15 November, Port Macquarie](#)
[Cobar Regional Mining & Exploration Conference 2013, 25–26 November, Cobar](#)

Staff movements

Pamela Gould has commenced as GIS and Coordination Officer, Land Use Assessment
Andrew Helman has commenced as Geoscientist, Land Use Assessment
Shayne Kneen has commenced as Geoscientist, Land Use Assessment
Catherine Shirley has accepted the position of Geoscientist, Data Systems
Cheryl Hormann has retired from her position as Geospatial Information Officer

New positions

New positions with GSNSW through the New Frontiers initiative are currently advertised on the [Jobs NSW](#) website. Further positions will be advertised on this site in the near future.

Products

[Geoscience Product Catalogue](#)
[Geophysical images and data](#)
[Online sales: \[www.shop.nsw.gov.au\]\(http://www.shop.nsw.gov.au\)](#)
[Quarterly Notes](#)

Enquiries

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Visit the [Geological Survey of New South Wales website](#) where you will find access to online systems DIGS[®], MinView, EROL, GDW and GPC, upcoming events, GSNSW news, publications and product information.
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