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Funding boost for Joe Lord Kalgoorlie Core Library

The Western Australian Government announcement of \$7 million to expand the capacity of the Joe Lord Core Library in Kalgoorlie has been welcomed by the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) as needed funding to grow the industry.

“AMEC has been calling for this funding as the Kalgoorlie core library is a key piece of infrastructure for Western Australia’s mineral exploration industry, and it’s almost full,” said Mr Warren Pearce, Chief Executive Officer, AMEC.

“Today’s announcement is well timed as improvements in drilling technology and the success of the Government’s EIS co-funded drilling scheme has increased demand for drill core storage much faster than originally envisaged.”

“Many mines have been discovered from samples and data held in the WA’s core library, with geologists reassessing samples and finding opportunities previously missed.”

A core library is used to display and archive drill core to reduce the technical and financial risk associated with resource exploration and at the same time increase discovery rates by more targeted, geologically based exploration techniques. This reduces the environmental footprint of exploration.

Western Australia has two purpose-built core libraries, the Perth Core Library, located in Carlisle, and the Joe Lord Core Library in Kalgoorlie. The Perth Core Library, which houses mineral and petroleum core, was doubled in size in 2016. The Kalgoorlie Core Library is now reaching full capacity.

“Mineral exploration is the lifeblood of mining, and WA’s core library is vital to keep the State’s mining industry’s blood pumping,” said Mr Pearce.