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Refreshed Battery and Critical Minerals Strategy for Western Australia

Today's release of a refreshed Battery and Critical Minerals Strategy from the Western Australian Government is welcomed by the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC).

This strategy helps build on their current investment in the sector and aims to guide the State, as it pushes to become a global player in the downstream processing of critical minerals.

AMEC Chief Executive, Mr Warren Pearce, said "It makes sense to refresh the critical minerals strategy as the Industry evolves and market conditions change."

"It shows the priority the WA Government places on critical minerals, with some other states yet to even release a critical minerals strategy."

The State Government continues to prioritise actions that will help WA realise its critical mineral projects. This can be achieved through creating a more efficient approvals system, planning, investing in common user infrastructure and targeted support for strategically important goals.

While no new funding has been announced alongside the strategy, with the \$500 million Strategic Industries Fund being announced in the recent State Budget 2024/25, the refreshed strategy focuses on a range of issues that need addressing, such as strategic industrial land.

The Critical Minerals Production Tax Incentive (PTI) announced in the Federal Budget 2024/25 would provide significant help to companies looking to develop downstream processing in Australia.

"As the global demand for critical minerals continues to grow and change, the world needs Australia to develop its critical minerals so that we can decarbonise. WA stands ready to help decouple and diversify supply chains with significant critical mineral deposits and prospectivity."

"However, in order for the State to realise its vision, more action is required."

"We need to further streamline the regulatory approvals processes, to enable mineral exploration and mining projects to be developed in a time efficient and cost-effective manner."

"There are currently over 50 critical minerals projects being developed in WA. If we are to help Australia and the world achieve our Net Zero ambitions, critical mineral projects need to move ahead to provide the minerals needed to develop decarbonisation and renewable technologies."

"If this can be achieved, it will be a game changer for Western Australia and the nation."

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