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AMEC welcomes new WA Mines Minister

The Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) welcomes the appointment of Hon Daniel Pastorelli MLA as Western Australia's new Minister for Mines, Petroleum and Exploration, while thanking Hon David Michael MLA for his contribution to the portfolio since December 2023.

The Cabinet reshuffle was announced yesterday, as part of Paul Papalia announcing his retirement and triggering a by-election in his seat of Secret Harbour.

AMEC Chief Executive Officer Mr Warren Pearce said, “AMEC congratulates Daniel Pastorelli on his appointment as Minister for Mines, Petroleum and Exploration.

“The resources sector is central to our State’s economy, and we look forward to working constructively with Minister Pastorelli to ensure Western Australia remains the world’s leading destination for mineral exploration and mining.

“I would also like to sincerely thank Minister David Michael for his leadership in the portfolio. David understood the importance of a strong exploration and mining sector, and has done an excellent job working with industry to address our issues. His elevation to the State Development portfolio is a natural next step, enabling him to advance the development opportunities across all of the State’s industries."

There are some immediate priorities for the new Minister to address, including passage of the Mining Amendment Bill 2025, progressing the outcomes of Resources Online, and implementing the recommendations of the Glen Kelly Review.

“There are significant opportunities ahead to strengthen WA's resources sector, in particular is the need to act on the review into Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and find new ways to reduce delays in the approvals framework.

"Minister Pastorelli brings extensive experience working at the highest levels of Government, and we look forward to bringing him up to speed on the key priorities for the remainder of this parliamentary term. There is important work already underway, and maintaining momentum will be critical," added Mr Pearce.

Mr Pastorelli is the member for Landsdale and a first term Parliamentarian. However, he has a long history with the Government having served as Premier McGowan’s Chief of Staff from the 2017 Election until stepping down to contest the seat of Landsdale in the 2024 State Election. His elevation to Minister also sees him take on the Water portfolio, underscoring the importance of water as an enabler for development.

AMEC looks forward to working collaboratively with Minister Pastorelli and his office to ensure Western Australia remains globally competitive and continues to attract the investment needed to discover and develop the next generation of mineral projects.

On behalf of AMEC and our members, we also thank David Michael for his work as Mines Minister and congratulate him on his appointment as Minister for State Development.

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