



# Minerals exploration in western Victoria

## A HELPING HAND TO LANDHOLDERS

### Improving support for landholders negotiating access to their property

Discussing minerals exploration programs and potential arrangements for accessing land with an explorer is often an unfamiliar and challenging process for landholders.

The Department of Economic Development, Jobs Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) is developing improved land access arrangements and assistance for landholders and explorers, which is being put in place as part of the Stavely Ground Release.

The Stavely Ground Release makes available 11 areas (blocks) within the Stavely Arc in western Victoria for minerals exploration. The ground release excludes exploration for coal and gas.

### More assistance and support for landholders will be available, including:

- Free workshops and information sessions for landholders in regional centres about the land access process and negotiating access and compensation agreements with minerals explorers.
- A simple, voluntary land access and compensation agreement template and supporting guidance material.
- Providing training to advisors to equip them with the right information and boost their capabilities about land access.
- Developing a new dispute resolution approach and support, which will be put in place after the award of any licences through the Stavely Ground Release tender.

The new tools will help both landholders and exploration companies achieve better outcomes by improving understanding and streamlining negotiations.

The new tools are being developed in consultation with farmers and will be rolled out later in the year.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

For detailed information and to register to receive updates, please visit:

[earthresources.vic.gov.au/stavely](http://earthresources.vic.gov.au/stavely)

Alternatively, we can be contacted via email at [mdv@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:mdv@ecodev.vic.gov.au) or call **1300 366 356**.

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