

Mid West Set for Mining Employment Boost

Karara Mining launches local recruitment strategy targeting up to 200 permanent employees during 2012

Geraldton, Western Australia, 11 January 2012 – Employment opportunities within the mining sector in the Mid West region are set to receive a huge boost with the region's largest resource project, the Karara Iron Ore Project, launching its Local Recruitment Strategy.

Karara Mining Limited (KML), which is a joint venture between Gindalbie Metals Ltd and the leading Chinese steel and iron ore group Ansteel, is aiming to recruit up to 200 permanent employees for the project this year as production commences and ramps up to a Stage 1 level of 10Mtpa.

The \$2.57 billion project has been in development since early 2009 and is currently in the final phase of construction with over 1,800 people currently on site. The Project will require a permanent workforce of approximately 600 on a long-term basis once in full production.

The first shipment from the 8Mtpa magnetite project is scheduled for the September Quarter of this year, while production of direct shipping ore (DSO) has been underway since March 2011 and is ramping up to 2Mtpa.

Further expansion is expected to follow, with the known resources at Karara being sufficient to support production of 30Mtpa for more than 30 years.

KML CEO Steve Murdoch said the world-class Karara Project offered a unique work-lifestyle choice for skilled tradespeople living in Geraldton who wish to pursue a career in the mining industry.

“Our Local Recruitment Policy is very much aligned with our strong commitment as an organisation for local employment and development – a commitment that has already seen us engage over 250 businesses from the Mid West to support the Project.

“However, there is also a compelling lifestyle, family and social component to this approach which we believe gives us a strong competitive advantage in the current highly competitive market for human resources in Western Australia.

“Karara is just a short 30 minute flight from Geraldton. That's a very appealing option for Geraldton residents currently commuting to other regions of Western Australia such as the Pilbara and the Kimberley.

“Because of the Project's size and locational advantages, we are able to make a genuine commitment to support the long-term sustainability of the region – including towns like Perenjori, Morawa, Mingenew, Mullewa and surrounding areas.

“In light of the debate that continues to rage about the social impacts of fly-in, fly-out operations, including the effect on the communities where remote mining operations are often located, we believe that Karara has a unique opportunity to offer a point of difference in the resource sector.

“Our accommodation villages are brand new and offer high quality facilities including mobile coverage, internet, swimming pool, mini golf, tennis, cricket, gym and volleyball,” Mr Murdoch added. “This is a fantastic opportunity to be part of a world-class operation.”

KARARA

IRON ORE PROJECT

a Gindalbie-AnSteel Joint Venture

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Mr Murdoch said the recruitment drive was aimed having people in place from March 2012, with the Company targeting innovative and technically capable professionals.

Roles required include maintenance electricians, electrical supervisors, mechanical maintenance fitters, process operators, electrical maintenance planners, mechanical maintenance planners, maintenance schedulers (electrical and mechanical) and lab technicians to join its processing department.

Karara Mining is also advancing skills development in the region through its Mid West High School and University Scholarship Programs, engagement with Central West TAFE and Indigenous training and business mentoring programs.

For further information on career opportunities and operations visit <http://www.gindalbie.com.au/>

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