



**Kon Vatskalis**  
MINISTER FOR RESOURCES

12 November 2009

## **MRM Independent Monitor Report Released**

The second Independent Monitor's report on the McArthur River Mine has been released to the community.

Minister for Resources Kon Vatskalis said the Independent Monitor's Audit Report was prepared by Environmental Earth Services VIC, and gives a snapshot of the environmental performance of the mine for the period October 2007 to September 2008, (referred to as the 2008 operational period).

"The appointment of an Independent Monitor was a condition of the mine's open-cut expansion project," Mr Vatskalis said.

"As part of the conditions, the Independent Monitor was required to deliver and discuss the report's findings at a community meeting and presentation in Borroloola, which took place yesterday.

"I believe that it is important that the Borroloola community have the opportunity to hear the outcome of the audit report first hand.

"Both the mine operator, McArthur River Mining (MRM), and the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources (DRDPPIFR), were given an opportunity to provide a written response to the Audit Report and these are being released today.

Mr Vatskalis said the 2008 Independent Monitor Audit Report reviewed monitoring undertaken by MRM and the Department with recommendations made where appropriate.

"Given the report covered the 2008 operational period, issues identified since that time have either been resolved or are in the process of being addressed by the mine operator and my department," Mr Vatskalis said.

The next report of the Independent Monitor is to be lodged with the Minister in September of 2010.

Copies of the reports will be made available on the Independent Monitor's website [www.mrm-independentmonitor.com.au](http://www.mrm-independentmonitor.com.au) and the DRDPPIFR website [www.nt.gov.au/d/Minerals\\_Energy](http://www.nt.gov.au/d/Minerals_Energy)

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