



MEDIA RELEASE

A big step forward with Women in Resources SA

In an exciting development for the South Australian resources sector, a new group representing women in the industry is set to be launched this week.

Women in Resources South Australia (WinRSA) will provide a new opportunity for women in leadership roles in the industry to network, discuss common issues, and promote the participation of women in the South Australian resources sector.

The group is being formed with support and representation from major resource companies Santos, BHP Billiton and Beach Energy and resource support groups, Finlaysons, PricewaterhouseCoopers and the South Australian Chamber Of Mines and Energy.

"Until now, this type of forum for women in leadership positions in the industry has not been available. Women in Resources South Australia is committed to encouraging greater participation of women in the resources sector. This focus needs to start early, so that young women completing secondary education and considering university courses, see the mining and resources industry as a viable and exciting career path," said Julia Dnistrianski, Finlaysons Partner and Chair of Women in Resources South Australia.

"The mining and resources industry is critically important to South Australia. We know that men and women have different management styles and that gender diversity in the workplace can bring enormous benefits. Research has shown that companies with a higher proportion of women in their top management have better financial performance. We believe that Women in Resources can play a role in encouraging greater diversity, by promoting the industry as a career option for young women".

Santos Vice President Eastern Australia, James Baulderstone, said women will play a key role in the future of the South Australian resources sector.

"The establishment of Women in Resources SA is an excellent development. This new group will assist with closing the gap on current and future skills shortages in the industry and improve one of the industry's strengths – the ability to provide opportunities for people to develop their careers."

Official launch ceremony

The official launch, to be held at Finlaysons on 28 October, will carry the theme of 'The Tide of Change'. Key female leaders from the industry will speak about their experiences, the role that women play in the resources sector today and key initiatives to increase female participation in the industry.