

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee's conclusions and recommendations and the paragraphs in the report in which they occur are set out below.

1. CSIRO, or its predecessor organisations, has had a presence in Western Australia spanning more than 80 years and employs more than 400 staff at six locations. (Paragraph 58)
2. The mining, oil and gas industries are the mainstay of the Western Australian economy. (Paragraph 59)
3. Both the CSIRO Division of Exploration and Mining and the Division of Petroleum Research have established research teams and formed alliances with other research and development partners to undertake projects associated with mining, oil and gas industries in Western Australia and nationally. (Paragraph 60)
4. CSIRO and the Western Australian Government have identified the need to increase substantially the State's research capability to support the sustained development of resource industries in an era of heightened international competitiveness. (Paragraph 61)
5. CSIRO and the Western Australian Government entered into an agreement in 1997 to establish a National Centre for Petroleum and Mineral Resources Research in Perth. (Paragraph 62)
6. Independent economic and financial analysis has demonstrated that returns to the community and resource companies from investment in research and technology transfer can be significant and are highly influential in the creation of new investment and employment. (Paragraph 63)
7. Collocation of the Division of Exploration and Mining and the Division of Petroleum Resources will deliver cost savings and will maximise research effort in support of both oil and mining industry sectors. (Paragraph 64)
8. The extent of the proposed work can be justified as providing modern facilities designed to enable CSIRO Divisions and alliance partners to undertake research into minerals and petroleum research at increased levels and will overcome current unsatisfactory conditions. (Paragraph 97)
9. The proposed site, adjacent to Curtin University of Technology and within Technology Park, Bentley will provide the capability to foster collaborative research between the university and private sector research and development organisations. (Paragraph 113)
10. A Master Plan for the site makes provision for further expansion of facilities and staff. (Paragraph 114)
11. The Committee recommends the construction of the proposed CSIRO National Centre for Petroleum and Mineral Research, Bentley, WA, at an estimated out turn cost of \$31.8 million. (Paragraph 137)