



The Place To Be

# Media release

From the Department of Primary Industries

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## **VIC'S MINERAL DEPOSITS AVAILABLE FOR THE WORLD TO SEE**

From today, information about Victoria's mineral deposits will be available anywhere in the world when data is launched using a special language developed to translate geological information.

GeoScience Victoria Information Manager Linda Bibby said new data would be launched for the first time at the second annual Resources Victoria Conference in Melbourne today using the AuScope portal, which is similar to Google Earth.

"The launch will allow detailed mineral deposit data in Victoria and SA to become easily accessible regardless of where you are in the world, using a special language which makes the data readable anywhere," Ms Bibby said.

"Previously geoscience data has been difficult to access outside of a state or country. For example even SA and Victoria store geological data in different formats.

"To try and rectify this, Victorian geologists have been leading parts of an international project to develop a special language, called GeoSciML.

"This special language allows geoscience databases to speak the same language, resulting in geologists being able to access geological data regardless of the original format.

"Making data such as this easily accessible to the earth resources industry around the world will help encourage new international investment in the development of our earth resources, by allowing geologists to easily explore Victoria's potential online.

"A number of countries have started to launch data using GeoSciML and further resources data for Victoria is expected to be launched in coming months.

"This launch today has been possible thanks to a collaboration between Australian states and territories.

"Mineral occurrences in Victoria and SA are just the first instalment. Further data on other resources available in Victoria and in other states and territories will be launched in coming months."

Ms Bibby said while GeoSciML provided the language to translate data for this project, CSIRO, through its AuScope project, developed the infrastructure and portal to support this launch in Australia.

"This project is an exciting step forward in helping to show the potential of Victoria's, and Australia's, resources to the rest of the world," she said.

This launch is occurring on day three of the Resources Victoria Conference, which is the technical forum where new geoscience information is presented to industry. It also coincides with National Science Week.

The Victorian Government is the principal sponsor of the Resources Victoria Conference, which is being run by Paydirt Media.

The conference is designed to showcase Victoria's investment opportunities in commodities such as gold, mineral sands, oil and gas, brown coal and geothermal energy.

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