Mining Amendment (Cyanide Leaching) Bill 2004

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Mining Act* 1992 to prohibit the recovery

of gold, silver or other metals by cyanide leaching of the ore.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent.

Clause 3 is a formal provision that gives effect to the amendments to the *Mining Act 1992* set out in Schedule 1.

Schedule 1 Amendments

Schedule 1 [1] inserts a new section 238A into the Act, which imposes on every exploration licence, assessment lease, mining lease and mineral claim a condition prohibiting the use of cyanide leaching for ore processing.

Schedule 1 [2] provides for the transitional application of the amendments made by the proposed Act. The prohibition on cyanide leaching does not apply to existing mining titles where the process is already permitted and in operation before 1 July 2004, but no mining title can be amended so as to authorise the use or increased use of the process.