

MINING CERTIFICATION EVALUATION PROJECT

THE CANARY
UPDATE 3 – AUGUST 2003

BACKGROUND

This is the third in a series of regular updates on the Mining Certification Evaluation Project (MCEP).

The MCEP is a joint R&D exercise with participation from the mining industry, NGOs, labour, government agencies, the financial and accounting sector and research institutions. It aims to evaluate whether independent third party certification of environmental and social performance can be applied to the mining sector, by undertaking a policy research project in the Australian context.

PROJECT PROGRESS

Since the last Canary, the focus of the MCEP has continued to be on the development of a set of Working Principles and Criteria for mine site operations. The Working Group have reviewed two drafts of the Working Principles and Criteria at meetings held in Melbourne on 1-2 May and 27 June. The fourth Working Group meeting is planned for early November.

The Working Principles and Criteria will form part of a discussion paper to be circulated to the Contact List for feedback later in the year. A four month timetable to finalise the discussion paper has been developed.

Progress in the MCEP will also be presented at two upcoming Australian conferences – the Australian National University's Future of Ecolabelling conference in October in Canberra; and the Minerals Council of Australia Sustainable Development Conference in November in Brisbane.

PUBLICATIONS

The MCEP web site is online at:
<http://www.minerals.csiro.au/certification>

New downloads available at the site:

- Notes of discussions at the third Working Group meeting.

CONTACT

To be put on the mailing list for future updates via The Canary, or for any other information, please contact Fiona Solomon at:
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