



Iron ore trade restarts in Esperance

Southern Ports today welcomed the recommencement of iron ore trade through Esperance with the arrival of more than 7000 tonnes of iron ore from Mineral Resources' wholly-owned Koolyanobbing operation.

Southern Ports interim chief executive Alan Byers said the inaugural train of 106 wagons marked the restart of trade after a five-month hiatus.

“The arrival of iron ore at Esperance port today is a significant milestone that would not have been possible without the goodwill of Mineral Resources and the State Government.

“This trade helps support almost 100 jobs at Southern Ports in Esperance, many of which are directly involved in managing iron ore.”

Mr Byers said Southern Ports worked with Mineral Resources to ensure plant, equipment and IT systems were fit-for-purpose, which included upgrading production control systems and modifying the rail car dumper to suit the company's wagons.

Once the current testing phase is complete, about 15 trains per week of iron ore are planned to arrive at Southern Ports as part of an expected 6 to 6.25 million tonnes annual iron ore export for the next five years.

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Media contact: Peta Rule | + 61 8 9235 8004 | 0419 636 549