

## July 2019: Nickel sulphide given the green light for export

Southern Ports – Esperance has received formal approval from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to export nickel from the port.

The decision follows extensive planning over a five-year period to demonstrate that the current conditions on Southern Ports’ license to operate, effectively manages the loading of nickel with only minor additional sampling required.

“Achieving approval is a welcome development and has resulted from three years of extensive data gathering of levels of respirable nickel, which was measured on the boundary of the port and the town. The charts below show levels over five times below the requirements of the Western Australian Department of Health,” said Alex Leonard, HSES Environment Manager.

Southern Ports’ license allows the ongoing export of nickel sulphide and copper sulphide (up to 1.1 Million Tonnes per Annum) subject to strict loading controls on product quality and a highly contained loading system. Containment is achieved by using a misting system in the ships hold and a rotating container loading system.

“Southern Ports has worked in close partnership with IGO and Qube to achieve this outcome and ensure this trade was approved. We will continue to maintain strict loading controls to ensure the community and the environment are fully protected and the region continues to enjoy the benefits of this trade,” said Alex.

