

**ERA****Energy Resources of Australia Ltd**

ABN 71 008 550 865

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## Media Release

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### ERA pledges \$125,000 for Rio Tinto Child Health Partnership

Energy Resources of Australia Ltd (ERA), a Rio Tinto company, will contribute \$125,000 over five years to the \$5.2 million Rio Tinto Child Health Partnership aimed at improving the health of Aboriginal communities through early intervention.

ERA Chief Executive Bob Cleary said he was proud to be associated with this new initiative designed to tackle health issues faced by Aboriginal children and their families.

"Our company has been in the Territory for 20 years. Many of our people have been around long enough to really get to know members of the local indigenous community and share their concerns.

"This is a very powerful initiative, as it combines the resources of Federal and Territory governments, Aboriginal people, and business groups, working together for a common goal. For this reason I have great expectations for improvement in health of Aboriginal children."

Mr Cleary said ERA's announcement earlier this week that it would move its head office from Sydney to Darwin would forge stronger community links, both in the areas adjacent to the Ranger mine and the town of Jabiru, and more broadly.

"It will help strengthen the company's partnerships such as this one we are proudly launching today," Mr Cleary said.

ERA will provide \$25,000 a year for five years for the partnership. ERA's parent company, Rio Tinto, will provide \$2 million over five years.

The Territory Government is contributing \$405,000 a year for three years, with the Federal Government contributing \$1.35 million over three years through its Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation.

Three working groups have been set up in the NT Health Department's Office for Aboriginal Health to oversee the partnership, which has been initiated by Australian of the Year, Professor Fiona Stanley of Perth's Telethon Institute for Child Health Research.

The partnership will begin by focussing on three projects: developing a clear picture of Aboriginal child health priorities through the data collected by the WA Aboriginal Child Health Survey; encouraging healthy pregnancies in Aboriginal women, through reducing exposure to smoking and alcohol; improved Aboriginal workforce development and building community capacity in Aboriginal communities.

#### For further information:

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