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T +61 8 8938 1211 F +61 8 8938 1203[www.energyres.com.au](http://www.energyres.com.au)**Media Release****8 September 2011****ERA water sciences expert named Australia's Mining Woman of the Year**

Northern Territory water sciences expert Michelle Iles took out top honours at the at the Australian Mining Prospect Awards in Sydney last night (7 September 2011) after winning the Award for Mining Woman of the Year.

Michelle was recognised for her work as the Manager - Water Sciences at Energy Resources of Australia Ltd (ERA), which operates the Ranger uranium mine near Jabiru, 260 kilometres east of Darwin.

Another ERA employee, chemical engineer Daniel Hill, was a finalist in the Young Achiever Award category.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Australian Mining Prospect Awards recognise innovation and excellence in Australian mining companies and operations.

ERA Chief Executive Rob Atkinson said he was pleased and proud to have ERA employees recognised nationally for their contributions and achievements in mining.

"ERA's greatest strength is the quality of its people and both Michelle as an award winner and Daniel as a finalist deserve recognition for their hard work and professional approach," Mr Atkinson said.

"These awards also show how ERA provides great opportunities for employment and career development for a diverse range of people."

Michelle manages the Water Sciences team within ERA's Environmental Strategy department, providing operational teams with research, analysis and water modelling services.

These essential services from Michelle's team form the basis for evaluating operational and planning decisions, allowing managers to understand and manage the impacts of mining and processing, optimise water treatment and prepare for mine site rehabilitation.

In addition, Michelle regularly contributes to key mining industry forums, scientific conferences, and technical committees governing uranium mining issues in the Northern Territory, including presentations to international nuclear conventions.

Michelle has also introduced flexible working arrangements for her team which have helped retain highly skilled staff.

ERA is one of the world's leading uranium miners, and one of the largest employers in Northern Territory, with Indigenous employment representing 16 per cent of the ERA workforce.

The Company is a vital supporter of the town of Jabiru and the wider region of West Arnhem, and provides ongoing social and economic support to the Northern Territory and the local region.

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For further information on the company's activities please access ERA's website at

[www.energyres.com.au](http://www.energyres.com.au)