

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL MINERALS RESOURCE ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

The workshop posed three questions

For the West Coast Minerals Industry :

- **What are the opportunities?**
- **What are the obstacles?**
- **What actions are required?**

Following are the unedited responses as copied direct from the feedback sheets. The comments and responses that follow are not necessarily agreed with or supported by Minerals West Coast and are provided for your information only.

What are the Opportunities?

Government

- Favourable local Government mindset.
- Current political and government environment (large shift in support).
- Opportunity to work with major land holders and DOC.
- Western force market economy.

Community / Local Government

- More support of West Communities than the rest of the country.
- Strong history of mining.
- Track record.
- Opportunity to work with major land holders and DOC.
- Regional economic development (outcome).
- Desire in community for development.
- Western force market economy.
- Capability exists.
- Flow on benefits (tourism).
- Resourceful people.
- Supportive population / community.

- Supportive land owners.
- Supportive community.

Infrastructure

- Investment in infrastructure.
- Proximity of the port.
- Some infrastructure - roading / rail / ports / house / education / medical / population / structure.

Minerals Resource

- Diverse geological endowment compared with the rest of the country.
- High mineral prices and mineral diversity.
- Good knowledge base to build on.
- Minerals diversity (eg: coal seam, gas, aggregates).
- Minerals / coal resource potential.
- Potential (power from gas).
- Diversity of minerals.

Location

- Geological resources.
- Water resources.
- Value added product.
- Value added opportunities.
- Lots of space / land.
- Good lifestyle (mountain biking, fishing, sailing, climbing etc).
- Beautiful place to live.
- Large tracks of land that can be subdivided (even with sea views unheard of in other areas).
- Abundant water.
- Cheap housing on West Coast.

Other

- Opportunity to learn from overseas experience.
- Opportunity to train new participants – work / jobs for local West Coasters to attract investment by privatising part of Solid Energy New Zealand. gold).
- Opportunity to publicise / market mineral projects with low capital start up (eg: alluvial management).

- West Coast, New Zealand could be world leader in balanced environmental
- Industry commitment.

Actions Required:

Central Government

- Research and development incentives
 - Tax and other
- Regulatory policy review.
- Training and education facilities (school of mines, technical training etc) including primary education.
- Better, more of and more access data.
- Hospital.
- Provide adequate housing for doctors so they will stay (Buller).
- Pump money into education especially rural schools, for example Granity, Waimangaroa etc.
- Clearly eliminate where the minerals are and are not and determine the values of the land where they are.
- Improved commercial and timely access.
- Increase Government funding for exploration.
- Improve transport infrastructure.
 - Road / rail
 - Ports
 - Energy
 - Housing
 - Steel manufacturing etc
 - Education (including tertiary)
- Shared dialogue.
- Long term planning by Local and Central Government (not short term political gains). (Intelligent Government Policy.)
- Research activity.
- Market off shore.
- Increased foreign investment.
- Advocacy and promotion of knowledge base to attract explorers and FDI.
- Improve mining education co-ordinated.
- Clean up legacy mine sites.
- Mining school.
- Increased population for infrastructure.

Minerals West Coast

- Changing perceptions.
- Develop fact sheets.
- Education of ministers to keep issues in front of politicians ie: education of public (well thought out promotion).

- Lobbying Government and in general promotion of the Minerals Industry.
- Educating the public, politicians etc as to the opportunities and realities.
- Mining school.

Local Government

- Improving and promotion of social infrastructure.
- Providing drinking water (from the tap).
- Bring Tim Shadbolt to the West Coast (action man).
 - airlines cancel flights to pull the plane off another destination.
 - Direct flights Westport / Auckland and Westport / Christchurch and not let
 - Roading / airport
- Shared dialogue.
- Long term planning by Local and Central Government (not short term political gains).
(Intelligent Government Policy.)
- Increased population for infrastructure.

Minerals Industry

- Changing perceptions.
- Develop fact sheets.
- Step up action by Coal Association and Straterra.
- Research activity.
- Market off shore.
- Increased foreign investment.
- Advocacy and promotion of knowledge base to attract explorers and FDI.
- Improve mining education co-ordinated.
- Clean up legacy mine sites.
- Sound mine design and mine closure planning to support solid applications and quality.
- Reducing environmental impacts so access is more willingly granted.
- Clear planning for good environmental assessments and mitigations.

Development West Coast

- Development West Coast needs to invest West Coast money in the West Coast. They need partitioning and to be given prospective.

All

- Strategic Planning.
- Investment in training mining skills.
- Attracting investors.

- Shared dialogue.
- Positive media.
- Community liaison and collaboration with appropriate stake holders.

Obstacles:

Central Government

- Infrastructure.
- Fragmented minerals ownership.
- Lack of publicly available regional geological data.
- Time for permitting.
- Slow turnover of prospectus.
- Lack of infrastructure
 - Social
 - Transport
 - Export
 - Constraints
- Resource Management Act.
- Negative perceptions (re: investment).
- Lack of big players.
- Carbon tax
 - Investment risk
 - Uncertainty
- Green house gas process.
- Infrastructure.
- Availability of Resource data.
- Not enough knowledge and experience in Government / regulators.
- The Resource Management Act.
- Regulatory processes (not stream lined).
- Attraction of foreign investment.
- Community infrastructure ie: health, education, social.
- Land access.

Department of Conservation

- Access to DOC land.
- Land access difficulties.
- Resource Consenting time frames and hurdles and costs.
- More people for DOC to enable them to access applications in a shorter time frame.

Local Government

- Infrastructure.
- Resource Consenting time frames and hurdles and costs.

Community

- Public perception around mining (change into opportunity).
 - Ignorance
 - Emotion
 - Hype
- Education of New Zealand people.
- Perception that mining is a dirty – degrades the environment.
- Land access.
- Opportunities for disparaging media by minority groups allows accountability without accountability.

Industry

- Attraction of foreign investment.
- Attracting skilled labour.
- Wage obstacles.
- Lack of junior companies.
- Negative media.
- Attracting skilled workforce.
- Instances of non-compliance reflecting badly on the industry as a whole

Location

- Lack of skilled labour
 - School of mines.
 - Apprenticeships.
- The weather.
- Small population.
- High natural values.
- Conservation estate.
- Conflict with recreation.
- Human resources limitation.