

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **CCAA WELCOMES DECISION BY WA GOVERNMENT TO FREEZE MINERAL ROYALTY RATE FOR BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION**

May 15, 2020

Cement, Concrete & Aggregates Australia (CCAA), which represents the heavy construction materials industry in WA, has welcomed a decision by the State Government today to freeze the royalty rates applied to minerals used by the building and construction sector for five years, from July 1, 2020.

The Chief Executive Officer of CCAA, Ken Slattery, said the decision by the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, Bill Johnston, recognises the challenges that the construction industry will face as it recovers and followed representations made by the industry.

Mr Slattery said the announcement was particularly welcomed as it responds to the national economic recovery post the COVID 19 pandemic.

“The battle against COVID 19 has and continues to be costly, with 100 Australians having lost their lives, large parts of the economy placed in lockdown, and hundreds of thousands of jobs having been lost,” he said. “As we start to reopen our economy, the Australian construction sector will play a vital role in ensuring we recover from the economic and social impacts of the pandemic.

“We welcome the Government’s decision, as a positive step towards keeping the cost of essential materials such as concrete, sand and stone down, and reducing the pressure on construction costs for housing and infrastructure for the benefit of the community.”

Mr Slattery said that cement concrete and aggregates are a critical part of the construction supply chain in WA.

“In WA, as elsewhere in Australia, our industry mines, manufactures and distributes the products that are essential to those critical building and infrastructure projects that generate employment and build our communities during this crisis and well beyond,” he added.

“The construction materials our industry provides are locally sourced by produced by companies employing local workers. They are making a major contribution to the local economy now and will continue to do so through the recovery phase.”

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