

**CHAMBER OF MINERALS AND ENERGY, TOUR FOR OPPOSITION MEMBERS OF
PARLIAMENT**

Statement by Member for Ningaloo

MR R.N. SWEETMAN (Ningaloo) [12.56 pm]: I acknowledge the efforts of the Chamber of Minerals and Energy, its Chief Executive, Tim Shanahan, and director, David Parker, for organising a tour for opposition members of Parliament. Nine Liberal and two National Party members went on the tour, which was conducted during Parliament's most recent recess. The tour went via Karratha, and I acknowledge the efforts of Councillor Kevin Richards for the reception that was put on for us. The tour included Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd's operation and Woodside Pty Ltd's \$2.4 billion establishment of the fourth train at its venture on the Burrup Peninsula. We also looked at BHP Billiton Ltd's area C, which is a new \$1 billion iron ore mine, and Newcrest Mining Pty Ltd's Telfer project. One billion dollars is being spent to expand that operation. The tour finished at Anaconda Nickel Ltd's operation. Another \$100 million is being invested in that project, and its future is assured under the sound management of Peter Johnston. On behalf of all the members who made the trip, I applaud the Chamber of Minerals and Energy for the time, effort and considerable expense it went to in ensuring that members of Parliament better understand and appreciate not only the wealth produced by such ventures, but also the safe and environmentally sensible way in which they undertake their operations.