



MEDIA RELEASE

DR CRAIG EMERSON

Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
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XSTRATA CAMPAIGN FALLING APART AS MORE FACTS COME TO LIGHT

More questions have been raised about Xstrata's intentions with the news that the company has signed a new \$3.4 million mining services contract at the Ernest Henry mine, Small Business Minister Craig Emerson said today.

He said the news came despite recent announcements by the company that it would be suspending the project as a direct result of the RSPT.

"This is simply more evidence that Xstrata is engaging in a campaign of misinformation designed to scare the local communities around the Ernest Henry mine," he said.

"It is irresponsible behaviour and the company must be held to account."

Dr Emerson said the announcement of the new contract by the successful bidder Industree raises doubts about Xstrata's claims to be suspending work at the mine.

"Xstrata continues to say one thing and do another," he said.

"The communities who rely on Xstrata's business have a right to be confused and angry with the company.

"This comes after news yesterday that Xstrata has been negotiating to buy up land around the Wandoan mine, which it said it would be suspending.

"This news just further undermines the credibility of the company and its anti-RSPT scare campaign."

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