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Minister for Business, Industry and Resources
Minister for Jobs and Skills
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Tasmanian Government

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Jane Howlett MP
Member for Lyons
Email: haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Jane

Thank you for your constituent question asked on 19 August 2026 in Parliament, regarding Mining sector royalties paid in Tasmania and Government support for our mining sector.

I'm pleased to report that in 2025-26, the Tasmanian mining industry paid $93.78 million in royalties, plus a further $2.73 million in fees and rentals in addition to the payroll and stamp duty taxes mining companies also pay. This is the highest royalty return the industry has ever paid to the Tasmanian Government, and it reflects the continuing strength of the sector and the returns it delivers to the Tasmanian community. Over the past 25 years, the mining industry has paid approximately $955 million in royalties to the State.

The Tasmanian Government strongly supports our mining sector and it is pleasing to see this outcome, which represents significant work over many years by industry and government to grow opportunities in the sector in Tasmania.

The Government has also acted to remove barriers and encourage renewed investment in mining, including through the repeal of the Acid Mine Drainage Act arrangements and special legislation to support the Grange (Savage River) operation.

Continued mineral exploration is essential to maintaining the project pipeline that underpins the long-term future of Tasmania's mineral resources industry. Exploration expenditure in Tasmania reached a record $51.9 million in 2025, up significantly from $36.6 million the previous year, while Greenfields exploration expenditure rose to $10.3 million, compared with $8.2 million previously.

A key driver of this growth has been the Government's Exploration Drilling Grant Initiative (EDGI), which supports Greenfields exploration with a focus on minerals on the Australian Critical Minerals List. EDGI has been a cornerstone of Tasmania's mining policy since 2018 and has now been extended to 2028 with an additional $1.5 million in funding under the Government's 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future. Ten rounds have been completed to date, and Round 11 is due to conclude in October 2026 unlocking a further tranche of new investment in Tasmania.

The Government is also investing in the digitisation of Mineral Resources Tasmania's tenement management system and geological databasing, to modernise how tenement information and exploration data is administered and accessed. This will improve efficiency and transparency for industry and support Tasmania's reputation as a leading, well-regulated mining investment destination.

This ongoing investment in exploration and administrative modernisation, alongside a competitive and stable royalty framework, positions Tasmania to keep supplying the critical minerals, strategic and precious metals the world needs while continuing to deliver strong returns to the Tasmanian community.

Thank you for raising these matters in Parliament and I trust this information is helpful.

Yours faithfully

Felix Ellis MP
Minister for Business, Industry and Resources

31/8/2026