MEDIA RELEASE

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Skilled workers trained for mining and renewable energy sectors

Skilled workers for the mining and renewable energy sectors will now enjoy state-of-the-art training facilities at the Central Institute of Technology’s East Perth Campus in Western Australia.

Opening the $3.2 million Mining and Renewable Energy Training Centre today, Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills, Senator Chris Evans, said the new facility will support mining industry training, focusing on exploration, mineral processing and gold assaying.

“This centre will play an important role in helping us meet the demand for skilled workers in the mining and renewable energy sectors,” Minister Evans said.

“It provides a modern teaching and learning environment for the state’s oldest technical training institute and graduates can look forward to strong job opportunities in Australia’s vibrant mining industry.

“The centre will also deliver training for electricians and installers of communication and smart control electrical systems.”

Senator Evans said the Institute’s focus on supporting workforce development in partnership with industry has seen it forge an enviable reputation.

“The facilities will allow the Institute to build on the strong relationships and partnerships it already enjoys with key employers across Western Australia,” Senator Evans said.

“The Gillard Government is also committed to work in partnerships with industry to address skills shortages in critical areas which help drive our economy.”

The Institute, which provides training for more than 35,000 students each year, received $4 million from the Australian Government’s Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Vocational Education and Training.

$2 million was used to build the Mining and Renewable Energy Training Centre with a further contribution of $1.27 million from the Western Australian Government.

A further $2 million was provided by the Gillard Government to enable the Institute to undertake repairs and upgrade infrastructure at its Northbridge and Leederville campuses.

The Gillard Government has invested $500 million in new training and skills infrastructure projects since 2009.

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