



MEDIA RELEASE
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Perth mining company wins environmental Oscar

Western Australian titanium dioxide producer Tiwest has enjoyed a win at the 2006 Banksia Environmental Awards – the national environmental equivalent of the Oscars.

Tiwest is a joint venture between the subsidiaries of Tronox LLC and Ticor Pty Ltd (owned by Kumba Resources).

The company's long-term environmental efforts paid off with a win in the 'minerals' category of the awards for sustainable mining of the company's Cooljarloo leases, located some 170 kilometres north of Perth. The company produces heavy mineral concentrates at the site from its dredging and dry mining operations.

Tiwest's Environment & Community Affairs Manager Jim Tyler accepted the award on behalf of the Tiwest at a special awards ceremony in Melbourne last Saturday.

"It is a fantastic honour to have our efforts awarded in this way and I'm personally very proud to work for this environmentally responsible company," he said.

Among the initiatives undertaken at the mine to achieve sustainable mining are:

- Diligent use of a mine entry wash-pad to prevent the introduction of the potentially devastating dieback fungus (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*)
- Management of clay slimes to ensure better rehabilitation potential
- Management of groundwater abstraction to protect vegetation
- High quality rehabilitation of disturbed areas
- Engagement and co-operation with stakeholders in partnership to add value

Managing Director of Tronox Western Australia Robert Kirton said employees were thrilled with the win and commended their continued commitment to mining and operating across the business in an environmentally responsible way.

"Tiwest is a company where employees and management alike are equally dedicated to protecting the environment in all areas of operation," he said. "We are absolutely thrilled to receive this important award and to be publicly acknowledged in this way."

Tiwest is recognised as a leader in sustainability through its fully integrated mining-to-titanium dioxide production operation. Tiwest recently celebrated its 15-year anniversary with Western Australian Resources Minister John Bowler MLA.

The company is also a finalist in the Golden Gecko Awards, presented by the Department of Industry and Resources as the highest environmental accolade in Western Australia. The outcome of this award will be known in October.

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