



Call for expressions of interest to evaluate the potential to reopen the former Ellendale diamond mine

The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) is calling for expressions of interest (EOI) from companies interested in undertaking exploration and mining at Ellendale in the western Kimberley region of Western Australia.

A Mining Act Section 19 exemption area, covering 12,385ha, was created over former mining lease 04/372 after the mining operations were abandoned in 2015.

Section 19 allows the Minister for Mines and Petroleum to invite applications for a new mining lease.

At the time of abandonment, diamond-bearing materials remained, both previously mined and processed, or in situ. DMIRS considers that other operators may identify new technology, alternative marketing approaches or other ways in which the remaining diamond resources can be economically extracted. Two separate open cuts and plant areas exist, Ellendale 4 and Ellendale 9, located between 125 and 145km east-southeast of Derby.

It is intended that the Minister will select a new applicant from those submitting EOIs.

Details of how to submit an EOI are contained in an explanatory document titled Request for Expressions of Interest Former Ellendale Diamond Mine. This can be downloaded at [Tenders WA](#) by searching for DMIRS210618 – Expression of Interest Former Ellendale Diamond Mine. EOIs are to be lodged at this secure website before 11am on 30 November 2018.

A supervised site visit for those interested who can demonstrate a level of experience that DMIRS considers adequate to operate a diamond mine will be arranged for the week of 17-21 September 2018. Preliminary visit details are contained in the REOI and potential attendees will need to register at least a week beforehand. No other visits will be considered.

Interested parties need to [register](#) with DMIRS. Any queries can also be sent to this address.

DMIRS has released a [diamond prospectivity report](#) on the Ellendale mine.



Ellendale 9 plant area looking across process water pond



Ellendale 9 open pit



Ellendale 4, showing part of the remaining abandoned plant area