

# Times a'changing

## Conveying success

ON NOVEMBER 17 the Western Australian government formally announced the lifting of the ban introduced by the Gallop Labor government in 2002.

WA Premier Colin Barnett said uranium mining was necessary to help reduce greenhouse emissions from electricity production.

"Nuclear energy is the only large-scale and commercially viable option for producing electricity without at the same time producing massive amounts of greenhouse gases," he said.

"If a serious effort is to be made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the heavy reliance on fossil fuels, we must allow the development of nuclear technologies."

Deloitte research indicates the WA uranium industry could bring the state government up to \$462 million in royalties and taxes. It also would increase the state's export values by \$4 billion and lift gross state product by \$3.2 billion.

However, the decision was given a cold


reception by the WA Greens party. Member for the South West region, Paul Llewellyn, called the Barnett government "morally bankrupt" for lifting the ban.

"The decision of the Barnett government to lift the ban on uranium mining is an unconscionable grab for short-term wealth against the long-term interest of the community and the planet," Llewellyn said.

The Australian Uranium Association argued WA's uranium exports would be good for the environment. It said the exports could abate 1.5 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

In addition, the AUA said uranium mining in WA would increase employment opportunities in regional areas by 220 positions annually from 2015.

Executive director Michael Angwin said it was important for WA to move with the times.

"The world has changed, and uranium is an important contributor to world energy security and greenhouse gas reduction," he said. 

INNOVATIVE Conveying Systems International has been named the winner of the Excellence in Transport and/or Conveying Category of the Australian Bulk Handling Awards.

The award recognises companies that have introduced new or improved practices or technology that affects conveying and transport systems.

ICSI has developed a conveyor system that can negotiate tight turns and rough terrain while keeping its contents enclosed. It can also carry material up grades approaching 80 degrees and is flexible enough to slew at its offload point and become its own stacker.

Managing director Michael Pietsch said the company had spent more than 10 years developing its belt system.

"Considering we've been commercial for less than two years, this is a major achievement for ICSI," he said.



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