



Australian Hotels Association
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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NO MINE PROTECTION CRITICAL FOR MARGARET RIVER

Australian Hotels Association WA has hailed the announcement by Mines and Petroleum Minister Norman Moore MLC that the WA Government will prevent coal mining in the Margaret River region as critical for its future in wine and food production and tourism.

AHA(WA) CEO Bradley Woods said the decision by the State Government to reject coal mining proposals in the area would ensure one of the State's extraordinary tourism regions would be protected now and in the future.

"Hotel and hospitality operators in the Margaret River region provide a fantastic West Australian experience to visitors, the Minister's decision to prevent coal mining in the region recognises the importance of this premier tourism region.

"West Australians already know the wonderful hospitality on offer in our southwest; this decision will ensure the region is protected for future visitors.

"Protecting, and promoting our extraordinary West Australian attractions, like the Margaret River region, is the kind of State Government support the AHA and hospitality operators have been calling for."

This week Mines and Petroleum Minister Norman Moore said the State Government would reject proposals for coal mining in the Margaret River region based on advice from the Environmental Protection Authority which indicated coal mining in the area posed an unacceptable environmental risk.

Ends

For further information please contact Chuck Ellis, AHA (WA) Public Affairs Manager on 08 9321 7701, pubaff@ahawa.asn.au or 0410 503 301.