

Tasmanian Geothermal Exploration Bid

Allegiance Mining NL, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Geothermal Energy Tasmania Pty Ltd, has applied for a 3,000 km² special exploration licence in western Tasmania to investigate the potential of deeply buried granites to generate geothermal energy.

Allegiance Mining Chairman, Tony Howland-Rose, said the region may be underlain by

hot granitic rocks capable of meeting the necessary criteria for hot rock geothermal energy production. "This view is supported by abnormally high thermal gradients experienced in several deep west coast mining operations which are known to lie above deeply buried granites", Howland-Rose said.

"Geothermal Energy Tasmania will initially be assessing all available relevant data

on the area, and undertaking preliminary studies and surveys to validate the concept and demonstrate the potential for hot rock geothermal power generation." He said Geothermal Energy Tasmania Pty Ltd will be separately funded but will utilise Allegiance Mining's support facilities on the Tasmanian west coast. ■