



MEDIA RELEASE

Delegates to the Pilbara Development Commission's Pilbara Dialogue meeting being held in Karratha on 18 September 2009 will get a sneak preview of the "Spotlight on the Pilbara" website before it's official launch in Perth by the Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Brendon Grylls and Mr Michael Tindall from the ABS on 23 September 2009.

The "Spotlight" project was initiated in 2006 by the ABS to create a series of web based reports to assist in the planning and delivery of services in the nine regional areas of Western Australia. Each "Spotlight" will provide the most up to date data on issues such as population, health, education and training, community and the environment, local government areas and information particular to each region.

The CEO of the Pilbara Development Commission, Mr Stephen Webster said that because of its unique status, the Pilbara region was selected as the pilot for the series and the Commission has been working closely with the ABS to finalise the Pilbara website.

"The "Spotlight on the Pilbara" website is an exciting development for the region and the Commission is pleased to have been involved in the project" Mr Webster said.

"The website includes information on a range of indicators such as community, education and training, health, law and order, recreation and arts and will be a valuable tool for anyone involved in planning for the region" Mr Webster said.

The Pilbara "reveal" will be officiated by Ms Wendy Duncan MLC, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development and Mr Peter Harper, Australian Deputy Statistician from the ABS.

Ms Duncan said that she was pleased to be attending the Pilbara Dialogue and to represent the Minister at this important event.

"The ongoing development of the Pilbara region is vital to the continued stability of both the state and national economies" Ms Duncan said.

"The Spotlight on the Pilbara website offers a unique model in statistical data and commentary that will be of tremendous value in supporting good planning to secure the future of the region" she said.

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SUBJECT :	Spotlight on the Pilbara Website Launch		
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