



MEDIA RELEASE

28 January 2011

Royal Commission seeks expressions of interest

Advertisements calling for expressions of interest from persons or organisations who wish to give evidence to the Royal Commission on the Pike River Coal Mine Tragedy will appear in West Coast and national newspapers tomorrow.

Chair of the Commission, Hon Justice Graham Panckhurst, says this is an important stage in the Royal Commission's work.

"Expressions of interest may be made by any person or organisation wishing to participate in the Inquiry. This will enable the Commission to determine who and how people should participate.

"We will ensure that the families of the Pike River Mine victims are consulted during this process. They do not have to lodge an Expression of Interest," says Justice Panckhurst.

Expressions of interest close on **18 February 2011**.

The Commission will soon provide more information about the Inquiry process.

For more information, including questions and answers related to the Expression of Interest process and a copy of the Expression of Interest form, go to the Royal Commission website at www.royalcommission.govt.nz

The Royal Commission operates independently of government but receives administrative assistance from the Department of Internal Affairs.

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