



# Pilbara Summit

by informa •••

24 – 25 JUNE 2026

RED EARTH ARTS PRECINCT, KARRATHA



## WHERE PARTNERSHIPS DRIVE GROWTH AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*Connect with industry leaders, investors, government representatives, and community stakeholders shaping the Pilbara's future.*

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# SPEAKER LINE-UP FEATURING:



**Hon. Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA**

Minister Energy and Decarbonisation; Manufacturing; Skills and TAFE; Pilbara, Western Australian Government



**Mr Justin Mohamed**

Ambassador for First Nations People, Office for First Nations International Engagement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)



**The Hon. Matt Kean**

Chair, Climate Change Authority



**Ms. Colleen Altstock**

U.S. Consul General to Western Australia



**Michael Blakiston**

Partner, Gilbert + Tobin



**Chris Osborn**

Managing Director Port, Rail & core services - Pilbara Iron Ore, Rio Tinto



**Tim Day**

Asset President Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO), BHP Iron Ore



**Virginia Miltrup**

Chief Executive, City of Karratha



**Kimberly Walpot**

Vice President Browse, Woodside Energy



**Matt Walsh**

Chief Customer Officer and Interim Chief Network Officer, Vocus



**Isaac Hinton**

Head of Australia, InterContinental Energy



**Robby Chibawe**

CEO, Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS)



**Tom Perkin**

General Manager - Strategy, DT Infrastructure



**Dino Georgiou**

Executive, Customer Sales and Success, Telstra Infracore



**Daniel Scott**

Mayor, City of Karratha



**Rachael Smith**

Executive General Manager Commercial & Growth, Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG)



# SPEAKER LINE-UP FEATURING:



**Simon Taylor**

Chief Executive Officer,  
Pilbara Development Commission



**Tim Bray**

Deputy Director General, PoweringWA,  
Department of Energy and Economic Diversification



**Clare Pope**

Partner, Gilbert + Tobin



**Darren Rogers**

Group Executive Energy Solutions, APA Group



**Laurent Trost**

Chief Operating Officer, Yara Pilbara



**David Boshoff**

Managing Director, BCI Minerals



**Krystal Skinner**

CEO, Horizon Power



**Joep Vaessen**

Market Leader - Energy WA, GHD



**Julian Wilmot-Barr**

Chief Financial Officer, Grounded Group



Senior Representative, Fortescue



**Kate Russell**

Chief Executive Officer, Supply Nation



**Izzi Messina**

Emerging Markets & Partnerships - APAC, Wood



**Aaron Morey**

Chief Executive Officer,  
The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western  
Australia (CME)



# DAY 1: Wednesday 24 June 2026

7:45	Registration & Morning Coffee
8:40	<b>EVENT OPENING</b> Alexandra Bennet, <i>Conference Director, Informa</i>
8:45	<b>Welcome to Country</b>
8:50	<b>Opening remarks from the Chair</b> Izzi Messina, <i>Emerging Markets &amp; Partnerships - APAC, Wood</i>
8:45	<b>Welcome to the Region</b> Daniel Scott, <i>Mayor, City of Karratha</i>
8:50	<b>Opportunity that the Transition to Clean Energy Represents</b> The Hon Matt Kean, <i>Chair, Climate Change Authority</i>
9:15	<b>The Next Pilbara Won't Happen by Accident</b> Michael Blakiston, <i>Partner, Gilbert + Tobin</i> Clare Pope, <i>Partner, Gilbert + Tobin</i>
9:45	<b>Transport Fuel Security in an Insecure World</b>
10:20	<b>Rio Tinto</b> Chris Osborn, <i>Managing Director Port, Rail &amp; core services - Pilbara Iron Ore, Rio Tinto</i>
10:40	<b>The Future of Pilbara Iron Ore in a Changing World</b> Tim Day, <i>Asset President Western Australia Iron Ore (WAIO), BHP Iron Ore</i>
11:00	Networking & Refreshment Break
11:40	<b>Regional Overview</b> Simon Taylor, <i>Chief Executive Officer, Pilbara Development Commission</i>



11:55	<b>City of Karratha</b> Virginia Miltrup, <i>Chief Executive Officer, City of Karratha</i>
12:15	<b>Positioning the Pilbara in Australia's Energy Future</b> Kimberly Walpot, <i>Vice President Browse, Woodside Energy</i>
12:35	<b>Connecting the Pilbara: metro-grade digital infrastructure for the region's next chapter</b> The Pilbara has long had to design projects around connectivity constraints rather than build on them. Project Horizon – Vocus' new 2,000-kilometre fibre network from Perth to Port Hedland – changes that starting point. Running through the inland corridor where Pilbara economic activity is concentrated, Horizon delivers route diversity, extreme resilience and direct connection to national and international networks. The presentation will look at what metro-grade connectivity enables for mining automation, remote operations, public services and workforce wellbeing – drawing on Vocus' experience connecting Hancock Iron Ore's Pilbara operations. Matt Walsh, <i>Chief Customer Officer and Interim Chief Network Officer, Vocus</i>

## INTERNATIONAL ADDRESSES

12:55	<b>US Consul General Address</b> Ms. Colleen Altstock, <b>U.S. Consul General to Western Australia</b>
1:10	<b>Ambassadors Address</b>
1:20	Networking & Lunch Break
2:10	<b>Pilbara Energy Transition Plan - Progress and Next Steps</b> Tim Bray, <i>Deputy Director General, PoweringWA, Department of Energy and Economic Diversification</i>

“The Pilbara Summit is a fabulous annual event to understand the latest industry, market, and community developments in the Pilbara. It provides a very effective forum to reconnect with industry contacts and build new ones. The well-organized and helpful event team makes the Pilbara Summit a regular go-to on the business calendar.”

**Peter Morrison, WA/NT Key Account Manager, KAEFER Integrated Services**

“Another excellent and full-house conference at the Pilbara Summit 2025 in Karratha. Great speakers, great connections, and great diversity of presenters and conversations.”

**James Rowdon, Business Development Director, Kerman Contracting**

# DAY 1: Wednesday 24 June 2026

## 2:30 PANEL DISCUSSION

### Exploring First Nations Perspectives and Opportunities in Foreign Investment, Major Projects, and Trade

- The Critical Role of Early Engagement: Understanding the importance of involving First Nations communities at the earliest stages of foreign investment and major project planning to ensure meaningful collaboration and mutual benefit
- Fostering Partnership and Equity: Highlighting the need for genuine partnerships that prioritize equity and shared decision-making with First Nations communities
- Cultural Protection, Consent, and Sustainable Development: Emphasizing the significance of safeguarding cultural heritage, obtaining free, prior, and informed consent, and promoting sustainable development practices that respect traditional lands and values
- Driving Economic Empowerment: Exploring strategies to achieve economic empowerment for First Nations communities while addressing concerns about narrowly focused economic models that fail to deliver fair and sustainable benefits to traditional owners
- Supply chain opportunities: exploring broader trade prospects that align with the values and aspirations of Indigenous communities

Mr Justin Mohamed, *Ambassador for First Nations People, Office for First Nations International Engagement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)*

Kate Russell, *Chief Executive Officer, Supply Nation*

## 3:00 Telstra Reinvents Mining: Supporting Mining's Digital Evolution

Dino Georgiou, *Executive, Customer Sales and Success, Telstra Infracore*

## 3:15 Delivering with Data: Unlocking Productivity in Energy Infrastructure

As energy investment accelerates, industry is taking on a more complex delivery task across multiple sites, packages and technologies at once. The biggest gains in productivity and cost will not come from individual assets alone, but from better integration, earlier decision-making and more disciplined delivery models. This approach supports a more practical balance between decarbonisation, reliability and commercial outcomes, while helping projects move from ambition to buildable execution.

Tom Perkin, *General Manager - Strategy, DT Infrastructure*

## 3:30 Powering Australia's Future: The Nation-Building Opportunity

Isaac Hinton, *Head of Australia, InterContinental Energy*

## 3:45 Q&A

4:00 Networking & Refreshment Break

## 4:30 Northern Australia's Defence in an uncertain world

## 4:50 PANEL DISCUSSION

### Economic Resilience and National Security: Sovereign Capability, Critical Minerals, Energy, Diversified Supply Chains and Infrastructure Security

## 5:20 Sustaining critical manufacturing - an Australian perspective

Laurent Trost, *Chief Operating Officer, Yara Pilbara*

## 5:30 Australia's largest salt operation: Driving multi-generational value in the Pilbara and beyond

David Boshoff, *Managing Director, BCI Minerals*

## 5:40 Q&A

## 5:50 CLOSING | End of Conference Day One

5:50 - 7:20 Networking Drinks



"I attended the Pilbara Summit 2025, and it was an incredibly rewarding experience. The event brought together a dynamic mix of industry leaders, local government representatives, Traditional Owners, and innovators across the resource, infrastructure, and energy sectors. The presentations and panel discussions were insightful and addressed the region's evolving priorities, including sustainability, economic diversification, and community engagement."

**Annamarie Kiernan, Employment Support Officer, Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation (AAC)**

### Pilbara 2025 Attendees

"A must-attend event. It enables those involved in the Pilbara to see the possibilities and opportunities this region offers firsthand. A terrific decision to host it in Karratha!"

"The Pilbara Summit is a fabulous annual event to understand the latest industry, market and community developments in the Pilbara. It provides a very effective forum to re-connect with industry contacts and build new ones."

"A must-attend event for those wanting to do business in the Pilbara. Great opportunity to meet businesses big and small and to discuss future projects."



# DAY 2: Thursday 25 June 2026

8:00	Registration & Morning Coffee
8:30	<b>Day 2 Opening</b> Alexandra Bennet, <i>Conference Director, Informa</i>
8:35	<b>Opening remarks from the Chair</b> Izzi Messina, <i>Emerging Markets &amp; Partnerships - APAC, Wood</i>
8:45	<b>Regional Health Provisions and delivering enhanced outcomes for the community</b> Robby Chibawe, <i>CEO, Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS)</i>
8:55	<b>Designing for People: The Next Frontier of Regional Workforce Strategy</b> Julian Wilmot-Barr, <i>Chief Financial Officer, Grounded Group</i>
9:05	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
9:15	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b> <b>Pilbara's Critical Housing Crisis: How can we unlock land, boost social and affordable housing, and grow the construction workforce?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— What are the main challenges in addressing the housing shortage?</li><li>— What solutions can we explore to address the housing crisis in Pilbara?</li><li>— What role should different stakeholders play in solving this crisis? What can be done to ensure more transparency and accountability?</li><li>— Ensuring community consultation (residents &amp; workforce) is a priority</li></ul>
9:45	<b>Fortescue</b> Senior Representative, <b>Fortescue</b>



9:55	<b>WA's Resource &amp; Renewable Powerhouse: Growth and emerging developments</b> Darren Rogers, <i>Group Executive Energy Solutions, APA Group</i>
10:05	<b>Datacentre Development in the Pilbara: Market Drivers, Challenges, and Regional Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Datacentre developments are expanding across Western Australia, with increasing focus on access to reliable fibre, energy, and water. Drawing on GHD's extensive experience in the planning, design, and delivery of datacentres globally, this presentation will share key insights on why datacentres are being considered in regions like the Pilbara, the local demand driving these developments, and the critical factors to evaluate when exploring datacentre opportunities.</li><li>— Attendees will gain a practical understanding of market drivers, potential challenges, and implications for businesses considering engagement in this sector.</li></ul> Joep Vaessen, <i>Market Leader - Energy WA, GHD</i>
10:15	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
10:30	<b>MINISTERIAL ADDRESS</b> Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA, <b>Minister for Energy and Decarbonisation; Manufacturing; Skills and TAFE; Pilbara</b>
10:45	Session to be advised
11:15	Networking & Refreshment Break
11:50	<b>Reliability and Decarbonisation: Why Coordination is WA's Critical Advantage</b> Rachael Smith, <i>Executive General Manager Commercial &amp; Growth, Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG)</i>
12:00	<b>Unlocking economic diversification through energy infrastructure</b> Krystal Skinner, <i>CEO, Horizon Power</i>
12:10	Session to be advised
12:30	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
12:50	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b> <b>Unlocking new digital opportunities for Australia's Pilbara region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Can data centres strengthen regions energy future?</li><li>— Applying a collaborative approach to the digital infrastructure sector</li><li>— Prefabricated modular infrastructure vs and integrated Utility approach - what's best for the region?</li><li>— How effectively can new data centres be embedded within the state's existing infrastructure? Is the future standalone developments?</li><li>— Designing for resilience</li></ul>

# DAY 2: Thursday 25 June 2026

## 1:15 CME's Cost Competitiveness Report

The report is a critical piece of work which provides the quantitative evidence base for CME's position that WA has lost its competitive edge in the fight for highly mobile capital investment. It investigates WA's relative operating costs, approvals timeframes, capital costs and policy settings against key international competitor jurisdictions. The report will lend weight to our advocacy for reforms that will improve Australia and WA's investment fundamentals.

Aaron Morey, *Chief Executive Officer,*

**The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia (CME)**

## 1:30 PANEL DISCUSSION

### Securing the Future of Pilbara's Water Resources

- Strategic long-term planning to address climate change, industry demands, and environmental conservation
- Exploring innovative and cost-effective water management solutions
- Desalination as a transformative infrastructure for water security
- Enhancing groundwater management to ensure long-term sustainability
- Anticipating and preparing for emerging industry water requirements

1:55 Closing remarks

2:00 Networking Break & Lunch

2:30 Close of Pilbara 2026



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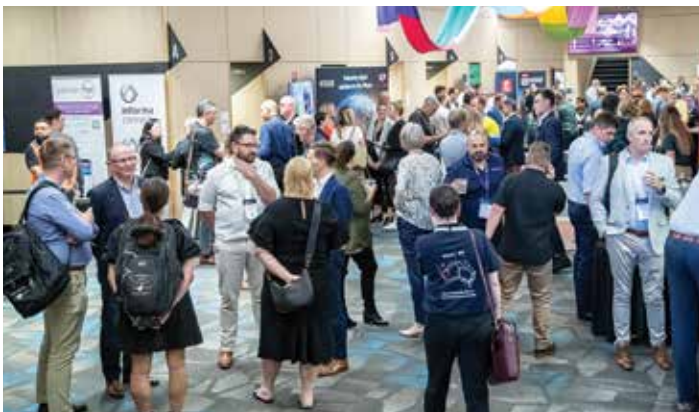
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## SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsoring Pilbara Summit 2026 will be your gateway to the Pilbara regions senior industry, investors, businesses, community, and government representatives to connect for this unique networking and shared learning opportunity.

If you are interested in finding out more detail about the remaining opportunities, please contact:

**Megan Rogulski, Sponsorship + Exhibition Manager**

**E: [Megan.Rogulski@informa.com.au](mailto:Megan.Rogulski@informa.com.au)**

**M: 0421 048 191**

# OVERVIEW

Key topics to be discussed at Pilbara Summit 2026 include:

<b>Economic Resilience and National Security</b> Sovereign capability, critical minerals, energy, diversified supply chains, and infrastructure security.	<b>Empowering First Nations</b> Co-development models and enabling success.	<b>Government's role in providing certainty and achieving success</b> Policy, funding, enablement, and SIA's.
<b>WA's Resource &amp; Industrial Powerhouse</b> Emerging developments & the next generation of mines and infrastructure in the Pilbara.	<b>Renewables and Gas</b> Balancing decarbonisation objectives with energy reliability, policy certainty, and requirements. What does realistic transition planning look like?	<b>Energy, AI, and Data</b> Driving growth, equity, and interconnection.
<b>Securing a Sustainable Future for the Pilbara and Its Communities</b> Water, Housing & Climate Resilience.	<b>Transport Fuel Security in an Insecure World</b>	



## Pilbara Summit 2025 | Key Statistics

**605**

attendees from across Australia and beyond

**241**

companies represented

**57**

+ Exhibitors

**4**

Years Sold Out in a row

**30**

+ local businesses and communities supported

**50**

+ Industry Expert Speakers

# Pilbara Summit

24 – 25 June 2025 | Red Earth Arts Precinct, Karratha

## Easy Ways to Register

- 1 Web**  
www.pilbarasummit.com.au
- 2 Telephone**  
+61 (0)2 9080 4307 – Quoting P26R14
- 3 Email**  
info@informa.com.au – Quoting P26R14

## Scan to Book



## Stay Connected



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## Pricing Details

Conference Package	PRICE	GST	TOTAL
Two day conference	\$2,400	\$240	\$2,640
Virtual Pass	\$1,395	\$139.50	\$1,534.50

For full terms and conditions, please visit: [www.pilbarasummit.com.au](http://www.pilbarasummit.com.au)

### SPECIAL SMALL BUSINESS PILBARA RATE

There is a special discount on conference attendance for all small businesses (less than 10 people) that have originated in the Pilbara and are NOT a branch office of a national or international company.

To see if you qualify for the discounted rate, please email [Richard.Beattie@informa.com.au](mailto:Richard.Beattie@informa.com.au)

### VENUE

**Red Earth Arts Precinct**  
27 Welcome Road,  
Karratha, WA  
Phone: (08) 9186 8600



### ACCOMMODATION

With limited accommodations options we recommend that you book your accommodation and flights as soon as possible.

Local accommodation options close to the Red Earth Arts Precinct include:

**Karratha International Hotel**  
(08) 9187 3333

**Ibis Styles Karratha**  
(08) 9159 1000

**Karratha Central Apartments**  
(08) 9143 9888

**Aspen Karratha Village**  
(08) 9185 2726

**Best Western Plus The Ranges Karratha**  
1300 639 320

**Latitude20 The Dunes Apartments**  
1300 528 488

**Comfort Inn & Suites Karratha**  
08 9144 0777

**Econo Lodge Karratha**  
(08) 9185 2411

For further accommodation options please contact:

**Karratha Tourism and Visitor Centre**

P: (08) 9186 8055

E: [visitkarratha@karratha.wa.gov.au](mailto:visitkarratha@karratha.wa.gov.au)