



ORE REPORT: JOB BONANZA

**ALEX MUNRO and
VIVIENNE RYAN**

THE Mid West iron ore industry is set to create thousands of new jobs each year for the next quarter of a century, according to a report to be released today.

The Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance commissioned the report to assess the impact various projects in the Mid West would have on the regional, State and national economies.

Key findings in regards to the expansion of the industry in

the Mid West were:

- The creation of more than 1000 jobs a year during the construction phase

- The creation of more than 4000 direct jobs a year for a conservatively estimated 25-year operational period

- An additional 10,000-plus indirect jobs a year in Western Australia from the increased economic activity

The report — entitled Mining Expansion in the Mid West: Social

and Economic Benefits — was undertaken by Perth-based Economics Consulting Services, which specialises in resource economics and policy consulting.

An overview of the report was given by Dr Brian Martin, one of two key people involved in its preparation.

Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance spokesman Rob Jefferies said he had found the Mid West community overwhelmingly in favour of the

industry due to the employment and social benefits it offered.

In an impassioned appeal for public support earlier this week, Mr Jefferies called on the Mid West community to give its backing to the industry.

The report is due to be released in full today at an alliance briefing at Conversations by Indigo restaurant in Geraldton at 7.30am.