



Media Monitoring

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## **Report forecasts mid-west iron ore mining to generate \$60b**

The Mid-West Development Commission says a report by mining companies on the future of the region contains information it has been discussing for the past year.

The Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance yesterday revealed the findings of a report it commissioned assessing the social and economic impacts of mining in the region during the next 25 years.

The \$65,000 report compiled by Economics Consulting Services forecasts more than \$60 billion will be generated from iron ore mining, and that Geraldton's population will increase from about 30,000 people to 50,000.

Commission chief executive officer Steve Douglas says the report shows again how the region could benefit if iron ore mining takes off.

"I think it tends to reinforce the information that the Government's been provided and I think it certainly makes a very, very strong statement about the socioeconomic significance and impact of those developments," Mr Douglas said.