



## Telegraph Resources

# Online mentoring program for women

AN ONLINE mentoring program for women working on remote mining, oil and gas projects will soon be available.

The Australian Women in Resources Alliance e-Mentoring program aims to connect female resource workers with male and female mentors whose success and experience can offer guidance and support.

Australian Mines and Metals Association industry executive director Minna Knight said her organisation had been overwhelmed with expressions of interest from women who wanted

direct access to industry leaders.

“The AWRA e-Mentoring program will extend the benefits of mentoring to those women who have struggled with face-to-face mentoring due to their remote locations and non-traditional work schedules,” she said.

“The program’s technology will guide them through a structured process supported by an integrated chat tool, video conferencing and various functions so both mentor and mentee get the most out of the relationship.”

Ms Knight said a recently completed national analysis of gen-

der diversity in resource roles indicated both industry and government needed to step-up their efforts to increase the participation of women.

“Industry forecasts are that more than 90,000 new jobs will be created on Australia’s major resources and related construction projects by 2015, and women have a very important role to play in the development and operation of these projects,” she said.

“If the industry is to meet its true potential, we need to make a deliberate effort to mentor young women.”