



### **Club of Rome Expert to Speak on Water Scarcity at Annual Mining Lecture**

One of the world's great thinkers and communicators, Dr Keith Suter, is to present the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Sir George Fisher Lecture at Jupiters Hotel, on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2007. Dr Suter is a member of the prestigious economic and environmental global think tank, The Club of Rome – comprising only 100 members including people such as Mikhail Gorbachev, Bill Gates, Al Gore and Jimmy Carter.

The Sir George Fisher is run annually by the North Queensland Branch of The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (The AusIMM), the pre-eminent organisation representing professionals in the minerals sector.

“The title of the lecture ‘Are we running out of water?’ is a very topical one for the mining industry. We are a small user of water nationally, but a high user by catchment,” said Mr Geoffrey Whebell, Chair of the North Queensland Branch of The AusIMM.

“Water is a key input into mining and minerals processing activities. Efficiency has long been a key consideration, but we are keen to encourage mining profession and the community to think about overall water sustainability issues in Australia.”

It is hoped that the event will be attended by both the industry and broader community. The Lecture, held annually, is in recognition of the contribution made by Sir George Fisher to the development of North Queensland in general and Townsville in particular. Sadly Sir George Fisher passed away this year at the age of 104 years.

Sir George Fisher spent 50 years in the Australian mining industry, and was Chairman of Mount Isa Mines Limited (now Xstrata) during the company's major expansion of copper and silver-lead-zinc production in the 1950's and 1960's. He is also closely identified with the development of Mount Isa from a small town to a major inland city.

The flyer can be viewed at:

[http://www.ausimm.com.au/main/branches/docs/sir\\_george\\_fisher\\_lecture.pdf](http://www.ausimm.com.au/main/branches/docs/sir_george_fisher_lecture.pdf)

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**The AusIMM thanks Zinifex Century Mine for their generous support in bringing Dr Keith Suter to North Queensland.**