



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

12 February 1985

The former President of the National Farmers' Federation, Mr Michael Davidson, and the Director of Exploration of Western Mining Corporation Ltd, Mr Ray Woodall, have been appointed to the Australian Science and Technology Council (ASTECC) for three years.

Professor Roger Tanner, head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Sydney, has been re-appointed for a second three year term.

Mr Davidson, who has held a variety of important positions in farmer organizations, lives at Young, NSW.

He is Chairman of Dalgety Farmers Ltd and of the Farmers Grazcos Group and a director of the Primary Industry Bank of Australia.

Mr Woodall is responsible for Western Mining's exploration effort.

He lives in Adelaide and has previously served with ASTEC on a review of the Bureau of Mineral Resources.

He is also a member of the Antarctic Research Policy Advisory Committee.

Professor Tanner was first appointed to ASTEC in 1982.

He has held the PN Russell Chair of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Sydney since 1975, and has served on a number of other government bodies including the Australian Research Grants Committee.

The two new appointments fill vacancies created by the retirement from the Council of Sir Samuel Burston and Professor David Green.

I would like to put on record the Government's appreciation for the valuable service given by Sir Samuel and Professor Green.

Sir Samuel is the longest-serving member of ASTEC, having been first appointed in 1979.

He has acted as Chairman on several occasions and has contributed to studies and briefings on a range of issues of national importance - particularly those concerned with the needs of rural industries.

Professor Green, who was appointed in 1982, is a distinguished geoscientist and has made a strong contribution to ASTEC's work in a variety of areas including nuclear science, meteorology and international science and technology.