

# March 2016 – Delivering on guidance

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Record high ROM coal production of 5.7Mt for March quarter up 21% on the pcp and 44% YTD
- Highest quarterly saleable coal production of 5.3Mt for March up 28% on the pcp and 48% YTD
- Coal sales of 5.5Mt for March quarter up 48% on the pcp and 53% YTD, again a record for Whitehaven
- Production ramp up at Maules Creek progressing well with 2.0Mt ROM coal produced in the quarter
- Maules Creek next ramp up stage to 10.5Mtpa begins in January 2017
- On track to meet FY2016 guidance for saleable coal to be in the range of 19.5Mt to 20.1Mt
- Costs guidance for the full year FY2016 is now expected to be \$57/t

# MANAGED PRODUCTION AND SALES HIGHLIGHTS

Thousands of tonnes	Quarter Ended			YTD			
	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Change	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Change	
Managed ROM Coal Production	5,665	4,700	21%	14,935	10,356	44%	
Managed Saleable Coal Production	5,304	4,142	28%	14,557	9,811	48%	
Managed Total Coal Sales	5,543	3,741	48%	14,940	9,736	53%	



Thousands of tonnes	Quarter Ended			YTD		
	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Change	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Change
Equity ROM Coal Production	4,361	3,606	21%	11,446	8,063	42%
Equity Saleable Coal Production	4,041	3,218	26%	11,081	7,647	45%
Equity Sales of Produced Coal	4,249	2,899	47%	11,546	7,612	52%
Equity Coal Stocks at period end	1,347	1.297	4%	1,347	1.297	4%

# WHITEHAVEN EQUITY PRODUCTION AND SALES SUMMARY

## SAFETY

Safety performance improved during the March quarter with Whitehaven's TRIFR declining to 9.1 at 31 March from 10.7 at 31 December. The improvement came from increased focus on safety performance across the business.

# **COAL SALES AND PRICING**

Total coal sales for the March quarter were 5.5Mt. Sales comprised 15% metallurgical coal and 85% thermal coal.

During the quarter, sales of semi soft coking coal from Maules Creek exceeded expectations with a number of trial cargoes to new steelmakers. The high quality of the coal is attracting strong interest from Northern Asian buyers. Whitehaven achieved an average price of US\$61.77/t in the March quarter from sales of all metallurgical coal products - both semisoft coking coal and PCI coal.

Whitehaven expects pricing for metallurgical coal products in the June quarter 2016 to be in the range of US\$64/t to US\$67/t following the recent increase in quarterly benchmark prices.

The high quality of the Maules Creek thermal coal was reflected in achieving an 8% premium over the GlobalCOAL NEWC Index (Index) price for sales during the quarter. Whitehaven achieved an average price of US\$51.56/t for all export thermal coal sales for the quarter compared to the Index average price of US\$50.46/t for the quarter.

A number of new thermal coal buyers from Asia have visited Maules Creek and Narrabri and are trialling the coals. Whitehaven expects that terms will be concluded and new contracts executed with these new buyers in CY2016.

## **NARRABRI MINE**

### Whitehaven 70%

ROM coal production at Narrabri for the March quarter was 2.056Mt, 6% lower than the previous corresponding quarter. Ground conditions temporarily slowed longwall mining in a section of LW105 during the quarter however production from longwall panel 105 is expected to be completed by mid-May 2016 and longwall production is forecast to recommence in late June 2016.

Saleable coal production for the March quarter was 2.127Mt, an 18% increase from the previous corresponding quarter. Sales for the March quarter were 2.331Mt, a 42% increase from to the previous corresponding quarter.

Whitehaven reaffirms full year production guidance for Narrabri to be in the range of 6.6Mt to 6.8Mt ROM coal.

The project to widen the longwall face to 400 metres (from 300 metres) is on schedule and on budget. Components of underground equipment for the project are being manufactured in several countries while surface works, which include stockpile capacity expansions and surface electrical upgrades, are progressing on schedule. Mining of the first 400 metre wide panel, longwall panel LW07, is expected to commence in the first half of CY2017.



# MAULES CREEK MINE

#### Whitehaven 75%

The production ramp up at Maules Creek continued during the quarter with ROM and saleable coal production of 2.057Mt and 1.970Mt respectively<sup>1</sup>. Production for H2 FY2016 is expected to exceed an annualised rate of 8.5Mt.

Sales for the March quarter were 2.066Mt.<sup>2</sup>

Whitehaven reaffirms full year production guidance for Maules Creek to be about 7.6Mt ROM coal and 7.4Mt saleable coal.

Mining equipment to support the ramp up profile to an annualised rate of 10.5Mtpa has been ordered and is expected to arrive progressively onsite in H1 FY2017 and be operational during January 2017. Production is scheduled to increase to an annualised rate of 10.5Mt in H2 FY2017.

## **OPEN CUT PRODUCTION**

#### **Tarrawonga Mine**

#### Whitehaven 70%

ROM coal production of 0.576Mt for the quarter was 8% higher than previous corresponding period. Saleable coal production was 0.444Mt and coal sales for the quarter were 0.467Mt, 5% lower and 16% higher respectively than the previous corresponding period.

#### **Rocglen Mine**

The mine performed strongly during the quarter with ROM coal production of 0.362Mt, 75% higher than the 0.207Mt ROM coal produced in the previous corresponding period. Saleable coal production of 0.237Mt and coal sales for the quarter was 0.192Mt, respectively 1% and 7% ahead of the previous corresponding period.

#### **Werris Creek Mine**

ROM coal production of 0.613Mt in the March quarter was 7% lower than the previous corresponding period. Saleable coal production for the quarter was 0.527Mt and coal sales were 0.469Mt.

The strong production performance from the Gunnedah open cut mines was assisted by good weather and by continuous improvements in both mine planning and operational practices resulting in lower costs.

## VICKERY PROJECT

Work has progressed on the various studies to produce the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) seeking government approval for an expanded Vickery mine. Drafting of the EIS document and several other supporting documents is underway. These studies will continue with a view to finalising an EIS for submission around the end of the financial year.

Timing for start-up of the Vickery project remains market dependent, but would not occur prior to Maules Creek having been fully ramped up to 13Mtpa.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1, 2</sup> Maules Creek commenced commercial production on 1 July 2015.



# CORPORATE

Whitehaven continues to make progress on achieving further cost reductions across its business. FOB cash costs excluding royalties for the full year FY2016 are now expected to be about \$4/t lower than the average of \$61/t reported for FY2015.

The combination of lower FOB costs and capex post Maules Creek Project capital expenditure programme is expected to support further reductions in net debt in FY2016 and beyond.

There are US30.0 million in forward A3/US exchange contracts currently in place at an average exchange rate of A1.00 =US0.7292. These contracts are deliverable between April 2016 and June 2016.

## **EXPLORATION**

Whitehaven spent a total of \$0.162 million on exploration during the March quarter.



# **PRODUCTION AND SALES BY MINE**

Thousands of tonnes	(	Quarter Ende	d	YTD			
Inousands of tonnes	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Change	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Change	
larrabri							
ROM Coal Production	2,056	2,180	(6%)	5,518	5,032	10%	
Saleable Coal Production	2,127	1,795	18%	5,868	4,847	21%	
Sales of Produced Coal	2,331	1,643	42%	6,063	4,840	25%	
Coal Stocks at period end	391	649	(40%)	391	649	(40%)	
Farrawonga							
ROM Coal Production	576	534	8%	1,648	1,603	3%	
Saleable Coal Production	444	465	(5%)	1,439	1,499	(4%)	
Sales of Produced Coal	467	403	16%	1,456	1,519	(4%)	
Coal Stocks at period end	324	288	12%	324	288	12%	
Maules Creek							
ROM Coal Production	2,057	1,117	84%	5,355	1,211	342%	
Saleable Coal Production	1,970	986	100%	5,136	1,039	394%	
Sales of Produced Coal	2,066	948	118%	5,283	948	457%	
Coal Stocks at period end	401	254	58%	401	254	58%	
Rocglen							
ROM Coal Production	362	207	75%	949	792	20%	
Saleable Coal Production	237	235	1%	616	659	(6%)	
Sales of Produced Coal	192	180	7%	562	621	(9%)	
Coal Stocks at period end	252	116	117%	252	116	117%	
Werris Creek							
ROM Coal Production	613	661	(7%)	1,466	1,718	(15%)	
Saleable Coal Production	527	662	(20%)	1,499	1,767	(15%)	
Sales of Produced Coal	469	566	(17%)	1,540	1,808	(15%)	
Coal Stocks at period end	295	335	(12%)	295	335	(12%)	
Whitehaven Group Totals							
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ROM Coal Production	5,665	4,700	21%	14,935	10,356	44%	
Saleable Coal Production	5,304	4,142	28%	14,557	9,811	48%	
Sales of Produced Coal	5,525	3,741	48%	14,904	9,736	53%	
Sales of Purchased Coal	18	-	-	36	-	-	
Coal Sales	5,543	3,741	48%	14,940	9,736	53%	
Coal Stocks at period end	1,662	1,641	1%	1,662	1,641	1%	