



## WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED

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### WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED QUARTERLY REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2007

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Saleable coal production up 28% over the previous corresponding period.
- Coal sales (including traded coal) up 22% over the previous corresponding period.
- Acquisition of 100% of Werris Creek mine concluded (previously 40%).
- Development Application approved for Narrabri Coal Project Stage 1 in November 2007 and Mining Lease granted in January 2008.

The production results for the second quarter of the 2007/2008 financial year ("FY08") for Whitehaven Coal Limited (ASX: WHC) and its controlled entities are set out below.

#### ***Consolidated Equity Production and Sales***

(Thousand tonnes)	December Quarter*			Year-to-date*		
	FY08	FY07	Δ	FY08	FY07	Δ
ROM Coal Production	524	425	23%	1,033	801	29%
Saleable Coal Production	436	342	28%	903	638	41%
Coal Sold **	407	333	22%	910	598	52%
Coal stocks at period end	352	198	77%	352	198	77%

\* Equity basis - Canyon 100%, Tarrawonga 70%, Werris Creek 40% to Nov 07, 100% thereafter.

\*\* Includes coal purchases.

## OPERATIONS

<b>WMP</b> (Thousand tonnes)	December Quarter*			Year-to-date*		
	FY08	FY07	Δ	FY08	FY07	Δ
ROM Coal Production	469	313	50%	944	543	74%
Saleable Coal Production	359	225	59%	800	372	115%
Coal Sold **	349	189	85%	829	333	149%
Coal stocks at period end	304	186	63%	304	186	63%

*\* All figures are on an 100% basis, \*\* Includes purchased coal*

The Whitehaven Mining Precinct (“WMP”) includes the Canyon and Tarrawonga open cut mines and the Whitehaven Coal Handling and Preparation Plant and train load-out facility.

- The increase in production and sales reflects the increasing production at Tarrawonga.
- High coal stocks reflect delays and restrictions in capacity through PWCS Coal Terminal.
- The mining operations have performed efficiently with above budget productivity.

<b>WERRIS CREEK</b> (Thousand tonnes)	December Quarter*			Year-to-date*		
	FY08	FY07	Δ	FY08	FY07	Δ
ROM Coal Production	289	366	(21%)	598	753	(21%)
Saleable Coal Production	294	347	(15%)	593	722	(18%)
Coal Sold **	268	408	(34%)	551	708	(22%)
Coal stocks at period end	102	88	16%	102	88	16%

*\* All figures are on an 100% basis, \*\* Includes purchased coal*

- Strong production in October and November was offset by delays due to weather and other operational factors in December.
- Whitehaven’s full ownership of the Werris Creek operation from December 2007 will provide the benefit of operational and marketing synergies with the company’s other projects.

## **DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

### ***NARRABRI***

- Approval of the Development Application on 13 November 2007 was closely followed by the granting of the Mining Lease on 22 January 2008.
- Tenders for equipment supply and construction are being processed.
- Initial construction works commenced in January 2008.
- Coal production is scheduled to begin in mid CY09.

### ***SUNNYSIDE***

- A revised Environmental Assessment was submitted in November. It is expected that this will be put on public display in February 2008. Coal production from Sunnyside is now planned for CY08.

### ***BELMONT***

- Public display of the Environmental Assessment was completed in November. Response to submissions will be completed in January and it is expected that the Development Application will be approved in February 2008. Coal production is planned for Q3 CY08.

## **EXPLORATION**

Drilling activity in the December quarter was limited to drill holes associated with coal quality determination at both the Sunnyside and Belmont projects.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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