



## WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED

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17<sup>th</sup> October 2008

### MANAGEMENT CHANGES

#### Board Appointments

The Board of Whitehaven Coal Limited (ASX:WHC) has accepted the resignation of Rob Stewart as Managing Director of the Company, effective from today. The Board thanks Rob for his contribution to the Company as Managing Director and CEO and wishes him well in his future endeavours.

The Board has appointed Tony Haggarty as Managing Director effective from today. Tony has been a non executive director of Whitehaven since May 2007 and was Managing Director of Excel Coal Limited until its sale to Peabody Energy in 2006.

Andy Plummer has been appointed as an Executive Director of Whitehaven and will provide support to the Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer in the areas of business development, finance and investor relations. Andy has been a non-executive director of Whitehaven since May 2007 and was an Executive Director of Excel Coal with responsibility for the company's business development activities.

#### Senior Management Appointments

The Board is pleased to welcome three new members to Whitehaven's senior management team:

Austen Perrin has been appointed as Chief Financial Officer (CFO), commencing on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Austen will initially manage the transition of Whitehaven's corporate and accounting services from Brisbane to Sydney and Gunnedah. Austen comes to Whitehaven from Asciano Limited where he was CFO, prior to which he was CFO of Toll NZ Limited and Group Commercial Manager for Toll Holdings Limited.

Greig Duncan has been appointed General Manager, Narrabri Coal and will commence on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Greig has extensive experience in the development and operation of large longwall coal mines including as General Manager of the Astar mine in the Hunter Valley and in senior management positions with Roche, Anglo Coal and Springvale.

Brian Cullen has been appointed General Manager Technical Services for Whitehaven and will also commence on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Brian has extensive relevant experience having previously been Technical Services Manager at Xstrata's Ulan longwall coal mine and having also been an independent mining engineering consultant.

In addition to these senior management appointments, Whitehaven has retained Allan Davies to provide support to the executive directors and general management team, particularly in the areas of mining operations and project development.

Allan was an executive director of Excel Coal with responsibility for the company's operating mines and prior to that was responsible for Rio Tinto's Hunter Valley Operations. He was also a director of Pacific National and as such, has extensive experience with coal transport and logistics.

**For further information, please contact:**

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