

SUMMER 2016/17

## WHITEHAVEN OPENS DOORS TO LOCAL COMMUNITY

Whitehaven Coal opened its doors to members of the Gunnedah, Narrabri and Boggabri communities at the first Maules Creek Mine Open Day.

As a big part of the local community and the largest employer in the region, Whitehaven is proud of its long-standing links with the local townships of Narrabri, Gunnedah and Boggabri, where its operations are based and where the majority of its expanding workforce lives.

More than 700 visitors attended the two Open Days at the mine, enjoying a site tour, educational displays and seeing mining equipment and trucks at work.

Whitehaven Coal CEO and Managing Director Paul Flynn said most members of the local community had heard about Whitehaven's work in North West New South Wales but up until now only Whitehaven workers had got to see the complexity of mining operations at Maules Creek up close.

"Apart from being a great day for families to see mining equipment and trucks at work and to meet and speak with members of our workforce, we want to ensure community members

understand the process of coal mining and how seriously we take our environmental obligations.

"The Open Days were a great success and were an opportunity for the local community to learn more about Whitehaven; the type of coal we mine, where it goes, how environmental management flows through everything we do and the various initiatives we undertake to be positive contributor to the area.

"We're always looking for new ways to engage with the local community, and for community members themselves to interact with Whitehaven. That's why we opened our office in Gunnedah last year and the Community Open Day is just another way to help us achieve this", said Mr Flynn.

**See more pictures of the Open Day on the back page.**

**"THE OPEN DAYS WERE A GREAT SUCCESS AND WERE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHITEHAVEN"**



### RETURN TO PROFIT

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### BEST IN CLASS

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### MAULES CREEK MILESTONES

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## WHITEHAVEN COAL A STANDOUT ON THE OXLEY HIGHWAY



### RETURN TO PROFIT DRIVEN BY INCREASING DEMAND FOR HIGH-QUALITY COAL

Strong demand for Whitehaven's high-quality coal helped the company return to profit this year.

Whitehaven's production from the company's five mines jumped 30 per cent in the year ended June 30 2016. The company now produces in excess of 20 million tonnes of coal per annum across the group.

Shares in Whitehaven, one of the best performing stocks in the benchmark ASX/S&P 200 index this year, have soared more than six times from February lows as the company ramps up production and coal prices have started to shake off years of decline.

The company reported a net profit of \$20.5 million in FY16, up from a \$342.7 million loss from the previous year.

Whitehaven has boosted exports to customers in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, where the company receives a premium for its higher quality, cleaner burning coal.

"All our customers are striving to produce more energy with lower CO<sub>2</sub> and our coal is an important ingredient to achieve that," CEO and Managing Director Paul Flynn said.

There are more than 700 high efficiency, low emission (HELE) stations operating in Asia that rely on the type of coal Whitehaven is mining in the Gunnedah Basin, with another 1,000 planned or under construction.

HELE technology is being rolled out in south east Asia, while North Asia has been on the path for some time.

"We are now seeing Malaysia, Vietnam and the Philippines in particular starting to install the technology and they need cleaner coal to fuel that technology."

Whitehaven has unveiled a new billboard on the Oxley Highway westbound - between Tamworth and Gunnedah - to highlight the company's commitment to sustainable investment in the local community, and responsible environmental management.

The eye-catching billboard, which measures 12.6 metres wide by 3.3 metres high, features local farmer Trent Hall and his two sons, standing together with Whitehaven's Group Manager of Community Relations and Property, Tim Muldoon, alongside the message, "Growing our future together".

Whitehaven Coal CEO and Managing Director Paul Flynn said that the "Growing our future together" concept was at the heart of the company's values.

"Whitehaven is a proud local company. We are the biggest employer in the region and over 80 per cent of our workforce lives locally. This means local communities are the principal beneficiaries of the money we pay in wages and salaries, which last financial year alone totalled \$139 million.

"The Gunnedah and Narrabri regions have strongly bucked the state-wide trend toward a reduction in coal output and coal mining jobs, and we are happy to take some of the credit for that."

The other key message the billboard seeks to convey is about doing the right thing by the environment and communicating that mining can safely co-exist with other land uses, including agriculture.

## BIODIVERSITY A KEY PRIORITY



### Significant work has been undertaken on land and environment projects over the past year.

Whitehaven has more than 20,000 hectares of land set aside for various biodiversity and conservation projects.

The company's environmental team has installed 9 kilometres of new fencing in recent times, removed 49 kilometres of old fencing and sprayed 6,300 hectares for weed control.

New figures have revealed that some 800 hectares of revegetation was undertaken in 2016 to date, while a further 542 hectares has been prepared for revegetation.

The company's Annual Report revealed that only around 2 per cent of the land owned by Whitehaven is currently mined. In FY2016 the company also used less than half the available allocation of water across the company as a whole.

At Whitehaven's Annual General Meeting in October the company said it had entered into discussions with National Parks about the potential for transfer of some of the land into National Parks.

## ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY HAILED AS 'BEST IN CLASS'



Whitehaven's Paul Flynn (second left), Bob Sutherland (with trophy) and Jamie Frankcombe (fourth left) with representatives from the New South Wales Minerals Council.

Whitehaven's focus on employing a workforce from the local communities was acknowledged in the 2016 NSW Minerals Council Health, Safety, Environment and Community Conference Awards where the company's Maules Creek Aboriginal employment strategy was named winner in the Community Excellence category.

Each winner was acknowledged for their innovation and excellence in 'workers health', 'mine safety', 'environmental sustainability' and 'community engagement'.

Whitehaven has made a commitment that the Maules Creek workforce will

contain at least 10 per cent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. During early recruitment at Maules Creek we are already exceeding our aspirational target, with 13 per cent of the Maules Creek workforce self-identifying as Indigenous.

The latest award caps a successful year of honours for Whitehaven Coal. Earlier this year Maules Creek was named NSW Mine of the Year by the Minerals Council, the company's apprenticeship scheme won the 2016 HVTC Large Host Employer Award and the 2015 Annual Report claimed a Silver Award in the Australasian Reporting Awards.

## NEW PLAYGROUND FOR WERRIS CREEK FAMILIES

Liverpool Plains Shire Council Mayor Andrew Hope welcomed representatives from Liverpool Plains Shire Council (LPSC), Whitehaven Coal, the Werris Creek 355 Development Committee and the wider Werris Creek community to the official opening of the Hoamm Park Children's Playground, in Single Street, Werris Creek.

The plaque, commemorating the official opening, was unveiled by Councillor Hope and Jamie Frankcombe, Executive GM Operations of Whitehaven Coal. The \$170,000 project has been funded through contributions from the Whitehaven Werris Creek Coal Community Enhancement Fund (\$70,000), \$19,995 through the State Government's Community Building Partnership Program plus \$80,000 from LPSC's Section 94 development contributions for community infrastructure reserves.

## Whitehaven Coal has contributed over \$850 million to North Western NSW since 2012



### Supporting North Western NSW

**Including by:**

- **Employing locals:** Around 700 employees currently live in the Tamworth, Gunnedah, Narrabri and Liverpool Plains Shires.
- **Investing in the region:** We paid over \$90 million to local employees in wages this year - money that helps support local businesses across the North West.
- **Supporting local business, suppliers and projects:** Last financial year, we paid 600 local businesses and suppliers around \$200 million, committed \$6 million to local infrastructure and service upgrades, and made 81 grants, donations and sponsorships to community groups.



To find out more about Whitehaven and to sign up to our newsletter visit: [www.whitehavencoal.com.au](http://www.whitehavencoal.com.au)

You can also visit our new office in Gunnedah, located at 231 Conadilly Street

# ONE YEAR MILESTONES AT MAULES CREEK AND IMAGES FROM OPEN DAY



Just over a year ago, Whitehaven's Maules Creek coal mine officially opened. At last count, the mine employed 390 people – just under half of the company's total 850 employees. Whitehaven says most live locally, with 80 per cent of its workforce living in the area of operations.

It's also striving to provide equal employment opportunities, with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders making up 13 per cent of the Maules Creek workforce, while females make up 15 per cent.

In the last financial year, Whitehaven paid \$203m to local businesses and suppliers in the Gunnedah Basin and North West region.

More than \$13.4m has been distributed to council projects through the Maules Creek Voluntary Planning Agreement, which has funded the Narrabri airport upgrade and improved water supply infrastructure at Baan Baa.

Over the last three years, various Boggabri projects have received \$800,000.

The mine recently received new equipment that will allow it to increase its output by an additional million tonnes by mid-2017.



## GET IN TOUCH

If you have any feedback regarding Whitehaven News, please get in touch with:

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