

WESFARMERS LIMITED

QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF PRODUCTION, DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLORATION

DECEMBER 2004

PREMIER

PRODUCTION

Coal production for the quarter was 879,000 tonnes, which was in line with the previous quarter.

Overburden movement was above the previous quarter due to increased manning and equipment availability, and improved weather conditions.

DEVELOPMENT

There were no development activities finalised during the quarter.

EXPLORATION

There was no significant exploration activity during the quarter.

CURRAGH

PRODUCTION

Coal production for the December 2004 quarter was 1,119,000 tonnes (export coking coal 694,000 and domestic steaming coal 425,000), a decrease of 38.7 percent compared to the September quarter.

Production in the Coal Handling Preparation Plant ('CHPP') ceased in mid September 2004 for a planned shutdown to undertake major upgrade works as part of the development plan for Curragh North. The CHPP was recommissioned during November 2004 and achieved Practical Completion in December 2004. The extended shutdown and lower than planned production during the re-commissioning period resulted in production being approximately 300,000 tonnes below expectations for the six months to 31 December 2004. The CHPP is now performing in line with expectations and some of the 300,000 tonnes shortfall may be made up in the second half, but logistics constraints (including a lack of available capacity on the rail network) will make it difficult to achieve the previously estimated 5 million export sales tonnes for the 2004/05 year.

Overburden removal for the quarter was 21.1 percent higher than in the September quarter due to better availability of all draglines and increased productivity from truck and shovel operations.

DEVELOPMENT

An Infrastructure and Mining Agreement was executed with Thiess Pty Ltd in October 2004 for the design and construction of surface facilities at the Curragh North site, together with the removal of overburden in the initial boxcut. During the quarter, Thiess commenced activities on the boxcut, overburden removal works, the levee bank adjacent to the McKenzie River, site infrastructure support and access road from Curragh North to Curragh.

Initially, coal will be hauled by truck from Curragh North to Curragh for processing. Tender documentation has been issued to a number of companies for the design and construction of a materials handling and conveyor system.

EXPLORATION

At Curragh North, open hole drilling recommenced in November, 2004 to provide for further structural definition and product evaluation.

BENGALLA

PRODUCTION

Coal production attributable to Wesfarmers Bengalla for the quarter was 390,000 tonnes, a decrease of 44 percent compared to the September quarter.

During the quarter Bengalla operated in a high waste to coal ratio section of the mining sequence in comparison to previous quarters. There was also a greater requirement to rehandle waste, plus the proportion of coal washed was higher and the washery yield was lower than previous quarters resulting in reduced overall coal recovery. Operations will be moving into a higher productivity section of the mining sequence early in the next quarter.

The cycle time to complete each mining strip in the sequence is less than nine months, which can produce significant variations in quarterly results.

An allocation system at Newcastle Port commenced in 2004 which restricted the quantity of export coal that could be railed to the port and shipped to customers. This port allocation system will continue to constrain Bengalla's export coal sales and production throughout 2005.

DEVELOPMENT

There were no development activities finalised during the quarter.

EXPLORATION

There was no significant exploration activity during the quarter.

ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION

Mine	Ownership	Beneficial Interest	Coal Type	Quarter ended ('000 tonnes)			Full year ended ('000 tonnes)			% Change		
				Dec 03	Sept 04	Dec 04	Dec 02	Dec 03	Dec 04	Q2 2005 v Q2 2004	Q2 2005 v Q1 2005	FY 2004 v FY 2003
Premier	Wesfarmers Premier Limited	100%	Steaming	716	882	879	3,513	3,243	3,565	22.8%	(0.1%)	9.9%
Curragh	Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd	100%	Coking	1,145	1,169	694	3,670	4,551	4,345	(39.4%)	(40.6%)	(4.5%)
			Steaming	556	657	425	2,395	2,286	2,293	(23.6%)	(35.3%)	0.3%
Bengalla	Wesfarmers Bengalla Limited	40%	Steaming	803	695	390	2,154	2,481	2,125	(51.4%)	(43.9%)	(14.3%)