

NEWS

10 December 2008

CURRAGH TO MEET PRODUCTION FORECASTS FOLLOWING DRAGLINE INCIDENT

Coal production from the Curragh coal mine for the current financial year is expected to be in line with earlier forecasts, despite an incident on the weekend which damaged one of the mine's five draglines, Wesfarmers Limited said today.

This follows an assessment by the mine's management on alternative arrangements for the removal of overburden at the mine during the six month period it is expected to take to repair the dragline.

The assessment concluded that by utilising the mine's other draglines and truck and shovel operations to remove overburden, Curragh will remain on target to produce between 6.5 to 6.9 million tonnes of metallurgical coal in 2008/09, subject to normal mine operating performance and infrastructure constraints.

This falls within production forecasts outlined by the company in August this year.

Wesfarmers is continuing to assess the cost of repairs to the dragline's boom which was damaged during scheduled maintenance on Sunday, and the impact on cost of production.

For further information: Stewart Butel

Managing Director Wesfarmers Resources Ph: 0419 027 337

Mark Triffitt

Executive General Manager, Corporate Affairs

Ph: 0413 876 810