

**WESFARMERS LIMITED**

**QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF PRODUCTION, DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLORATION**

**MARCH 2005**

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**PREMIER**

**PRODUCTION**

Coal production for the quarter was 790,000 tonnes, 10.1 per cent lower than the previous quarter.

Overburden movement was 10.5 per cent below the previous quarter due to industrial disruptions which have continued during April.

**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 quarter was 1,948,000 tonnes (export coking coal 1,335,000 and domestic steaming coal 613,000), 74.0 per cent higher than the previous quarter.

The December quarter production was low due to the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant shutdown from mid-September to the end of October.

Overburden removal for the quarter was 1.4 per cent lower than the previous quarter primarily due to the unscheduled maintenance downtime of Dragline 3.

### **DEVELOPMENT**

The development schedule for Curragh North progressed to plan during the quarter. The significant milestones achieved during the quarter included an agreement with Thiess Pty Ltd to commence coal mining for the initial period and exposure of the first coal.

Further key project development activities included evaluation of tender submissions received for the Curragh North Materials Handling (Conveyor) Project, the extraction of a bulk coal sample for further resource evaluation work and continuation of the central access road and mine industrial area earthworks.

### **EXPLORATION**

Bulk samples of coal were collected from the boxcut area at Curragh North and sent for testing through a small scale wash plant. The testing and evaluation of these samples was ongoing at the end of the quarter.

Exploration drilling of core samples for the evaluation of long term product mix was ongoing through to the end of the quarter.

## **BENGALLA**

### **PRODUCTION**

Coal production for the quarter was 572,000 tonnes, 46.7 per cent higher than the previous quarter.

During the quarter Bengalla operated in a comparatively favourable section of the mining sequence. In the previous quarter and the March quarter last year relatively thinner seams were available as mining operations progressed from one strip to another. The waste to coal ratio was lower in the quarter than the previous quarter resulting in increased productivity.

Operations will be moving into a less productive section of the mining sequence in the June 2005 quarter with the completion of the current strip.

### **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		
				Mar 04	Dec 04	Mar 05	Mar 03	Mar 04	Mar 05	Q3 2005 v Q3 2004	Q3 2005 v Q2 2005	FY 2005 v FY 2004
<b>Premier</b>	Wesfarmers Premier Limited	100%	Steaming	885	879	790	3,413	3,299	3,470	(10.7)%	(10.1)%	5.2%
<b>Curragh</b>	Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd	100%	Coking	1,199	694	1,335	3,868	4,636	4,480	11.3%	92.4%	(3.4)%
			Steaming	659	425	613	2,195	2,398	2,248	(7.0)%	44.2%	(6.2)%
<b>Bengalla</b>	Wesfarmers Bengalla Limited	40%	Steaming	430	390	572	2,011	2,392	2,266	33.0%	46.7%	(5.3)%