



Wesfarmers
NEWS

24 April 2012

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

1 JANUARY 2012 TO 31 MARCH 2012

CURRAGH

Production

Overburden removal was 7.1 per cent lower than the previous quarter.

Coal production for the quarter was 2,594,000 tonnes (comprising 1,785,000 tonnes of metallurgical coal and 809,000 tonnes of steaming coal), 17.5 per cent higher than the previous quarter. Metallurgical coal production increased by 13.9 per cent and steaming coal production increased by 26.4 per cent compared to the previous quarter.

During the quarter, commissioning of the new coal handling and preparation plant continued. Coal production increased compared to the previous quarter but was constrained by continued commissioning requirements of the new coal handling and preparation plant and ongoing wet weather in central Queensland.

Development

Commissioning works are ongoing for the expansion of the Curragh mine up to 8.5 million tonnes per annum of export metallurgical coal capacity. Project completion is estimated to occur during the second quarter of this calendar year.

Exploration

The Curragh North drilling program continued with 29 holes drilled during the quarter. The primary objectives of the drilling were infill structural definition and coal quality analysis.

BENGALLA

Production

Wesfarmers' share of coal production for the quarter was 563,000 tonnes, 14.2 per cent higher than the previous quarter, due to a coal handling plant shutdown in the previous quarter to commission an expanded two-stage washing plant upgrade.

Development

Construction work for the expansion of the mine's production from 7.8 million to 9.3 million tonnes per annum of ROM coal is nearing completion. The expanded two-stage washing plant upgrade has reached practical completion. Project completion is expected in the second quarter of calendar year 2012.

Exploration

There was no significant exploration activity during the quarter.

PREMIER

As previously announced, the Premier mine was divested from the Wesfarmers Limited Group on 30 December 2011.

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ATTRIBUTABLE PRODUCTION

Mine	Ownership	Beneficial Interest	Coal Type	Quarter ended ('000 tonnes)			Full year ended ('000 tonnes)			% Change		
				Mar-11	Dec-11	Mar-12	Mar-10	Mar-11	Mar-12	Mar Qtr 2012 V Mar Qtr 2011	Mar Qtr 2012 V Dec Qtr 2011	Yr to Mar 2012 V Yr to Mar 2011
Curragh	Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd	100%	Metallurgical	1,010	1,567	1,785	6,696	5,742	6,125	76.7%	13.9%	6.7%
			Steaming	475	640	809	2,492	2,503	2,827	70.3%	26.4%	12.9%
Bengalla	Wesfarmers Bengalla Limited	40%	Steaming	598	493	563	2,228	2,298	2,112	(5.9%)	14.2%	(8.1%)