



ASX RELEASE

Annual General Meeting reviews record profit before non regular items

19 November 2019

Today's 17th Annual General Meeting of New Hope Corporation Limited provided shareholders with detail of the Company's past financial year's record profit before non regular items, updated with the most recent first quarter unaudited financial results.

The 2018/19 financial year was one of record profit before non regular items with a 3% increase on the previous year with Profit Before Tax and non regular items being \$384 million. Net Profit After Tax before non regular items was \$268 million whilst Net Profit After Tax after non-regular items was \$211 million. Importantly for shareholders, full year dividends totalled 17 cents per share fully franked which is up 21% on the previous financial year.

The acquisition of an additional 40% stake in Bengalla during the 2019 financial year, combined with an increase in Bengalla's production rate to 10 million tonnes per annum, provides an enlarged profitable and sustainable asset base for the Company.

The New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project continues to be in abeyance as the Company waits for final approvals. Despite being granted its Environmental Authority in March 2019, the project still requires Mining Leases, and an Associated Water Licence.

On 1 November 2019 the Company welcomed the decision from the Queensland Court of Appeal, dismissing Oakey Coal Action Alliance's appeal and granting orders requested by New Acland Coal Pty Ltd. The Court stated the Land Court orders from President Kingham were valid and binding and the Environmental Authority stands. There is no further barrier to the Queensland Government now giving final approvals for the New Acland Coal Mine Stage 3 Project.

The Jeebropilly operations continue to focus on safe production and 'finishing well', with the completion of mining operations due to occur at the end of calendar year 2019. Closure planning and post-mining land use optimisation work has continued during the quarter.

Work will continue over the coming year on the Company's development assets at Burton, Lenton and the North Surat, with the Burton coking coal project being the most prospective short term development opportunity. Final approvals will be sought for the Lenton project, with exploration and feasibility planning ongoing for the North Surat group of projects.

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Unaudited summary financial results for the first quarter.

Unaudited Quarter 1 FY2020 Results			
	2020 (A\$000)	2019 (A\$000)	Change (%)
Revenue	327,340	286,737	+14%
EBITDA	102,466	127,302	-20%
Net profit after tax before non regular	41,141	73,596	-44%
Non regulars after tax	(4,932)	-	-100%
Net profit after tax before non regular	36,209	73,596	-51%

The decline in profit is driven by a drop in the thermal coal price of 40 percent over the past year.

Acland Pastoral Company took advantage of a late summer storm to plant dryland barley very early in the season. The dryland barley performed above expectations and 400 tonnes of hay was harvested and placed in inventory. An additional 208 tonnes of irrigated barley and oats hay was also harvested and placed in inventory.

Following the acquisition of a controlling interest in Bengalla, the Company's land management experience is being applied to the active management of agricultural land surrounding the Bengalla operation. Twenty six hectares of barley was planted under the newly installed lateral irrigator.

The Company will continue to focus on creating synergies and integration efficiencies across all sites by leveraging off the individual strengths of each operation and where possible, applying those across other sites.

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RECONCILIATION OF NET PROFIT AFTER TAX BEFORE AND AFTER NON REGULAR ITEMS

(A\$ million)					
Year Ended 31 July 2019	Coal Mining QLD	Coal Mining NSW	Other	Treasury	Total
Profit / (loss) before tax from continuing operations after non regular items	169.2	191.4	(41.0)	(11.7)	307.8
Non regular items before tax:					
Insurance proceeds from ship-loader	2.4	-	-	-	2.4
Onerous contract and related expenses	-	-	(21.7)	-	(21.7)
Acquisition costs expensed	-	(47.7)	-	-	(47.7)
Establishment costs on guarantee facility	-	-	-	(4.4)	(4.4)
West Moreton redundancies	(5.1)	-	-	-	(5.1)
Profit / (loss) from continuing operations before tax and non regular items	171.9	239.1	(19.3)	(7.3)	384.3

Year Ended 31 July 2018	Coal Mining QLD	Coal Mining NSW	Other	Treasury	Total
Profit / (loss) before tax from continuing operations after non regular items	196.5	181.9	(126.1)	15.3	267.6
Non regular items before tax					
Impairment of coal exploration and evaluation assets	-	-	(91.5)	-	(91.5)
Reversal of impairment of coal to liquids facility assets	-	-	0.9	-	0.9
Onerous contract and related expenses	-	-	(15.0)	-	(15.0)
Profit / (loss) from continuing operations before tax and non regular items	196.5	181.9	(20.5)	15.3	373.2

(ends)

For more information, please contact:

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