



# ASX RELEASE

## *New Acland Stage 3 Update*

3 February 2021

New Hope Corporation Limited (**ASX: NHC**) (the **Company**) advises that the High Court of Australia today upheld an appeal by Oakey Coal Action Alliance Inc (**OCAA**) against NHC's wholly owned subsidiary, New Acland Coal Pty Ltd (**NAC**) in relation to the Queensland Court of Appeal's decision on final orders which was handed down on 1 November 2019.

OCAA's appeal to the High Court concerned technical matters of procedure relating to findings of apprehended bias against NAC which resulted in the High Court ordering that NAC's mining lease applications and environmental authority application be remitted to the Queensland Land Court for reconsideration.

There was no challenge by OCAA in the High Court with respect to groundwater or any other environmental issue that had been successfully argued by NAC in the Queensland Courts and that is relevant to any Queensland Government approval decision. The Federal Government has already granted New Acland Stage 3 all required Federal Government approvals to proceed.

Given the unusual circumstances of the High Court proceedings, being only in respect of the Court of Appeal's final orders and not the substantive issues decided by that Court, the High Court's decision does not provide any certainty for the Company and the current workforce. The Company will meet with the State Government to determine the process for finally deciding on NAC's outstanding State approvals.

Once approved, New Acland Stage 3 will provide ongoing employment and create new job opportunities for the people of Oakey and surrounding areas. The Company supports local businesses and suppliers across the Darling Downs and South East Queensland and is expected to inject \$7 billion into the Queensland economy.

A copy of the decision can be found here:

<https://eresources.hcourt.gov.au/downloadPdf/2021/HCA/2>

(ends)

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*This ASX announcement was approved and authorised for release by Robert Bishop, Company Secretary*

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