



WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED

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19 March 2008

WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED (ASX:WHC)

MANAGING DIRECTOR SUCCESSION

Whitehaven Coal Limited today announced that as previously indicated, Managing Director Mr Keith Ross has signaled his intention to step down from the Board at the end of March, 2008.

The Board is pleased to announce that CEO, Mr Rob Stewart has agreed to take on the role as Managing Director effective April 1, 2008.

Whitehaven Chairman, Mr John Conde, thanked Mr Ross for his long service with Whitehaven and in the coal industry.

"We are extremely pleased that Keith has agreed to remain with Whitehaven on an advisory basis going forward," Mr Conde said.

"Keith has enjoyed more than 50 years in the mining industry and remains one of the industry's most respected and highly regarded individuals.

"His recent contribution to Whitehaven through its transition from a private to public company, and its emergence as one of the country's leading independent coal producers, has been of immense value to both the company and its shareholders.

"However, this achievement is just one of the many Keith has made during his impressive career. We wish Keith all the best in retirement and on behalf of the board, management and all employees I would like to thank him for his contribution to Whitehaven.

"I would also like to welcome Rob to the role of Managing Director. His considerable experience in the industry leaves Whitehaven well placed to continue its growth through the development of both its new mines and existing projects."

Mr Stewart joined Whitehaven in October 2007 as CEO.

Mr Stewart most recently held the position of Executive Manager Mining at Thiess Pty Limited, where he had held a number of senior positions since 1997.

Keith Ross – Managing Director
Kate Kerrison – Kate Kerrison + Company

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