



## **WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED**

ABN 68 124 425 396  
Ground Floor, Ann Place  
895 Ann Street  
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006  
PO Box 2440  
Fortitude Valley BC  
QLD 4006  
Ph: 07 3000 5690  
Fax: 07 3000 5699  
Web: [www.whitehaven.net.au](http://www.whitehaven.net.au)

**24 January 2008**

### **WHITEHAVEN COAL LIMITED (ASX:WHC)**

#### **WHITEHAVEN RECEIVES MINING LEASE FOR NARRABRI PROJECT**

The New South Wales State Government today granted Narrabri Coal Pty Ltd, a 100% owned subsidiary of Whitehaven Coal Limited, a mining lease for the Narrabri North Coal Project.

The Lease was granted under the Mining Act 1992 by the NSW Minister for Mineral Resources, the Hon Ian Macdonald, MLC.

The Mining Lease allows for the full development of a new underground coal mine, located 28km south of Narrabri within the Gunnedah Basin.

Whitehaven already holds development consent for Stage One of the Narrabri North Project which includes establishment of infrastructure and access to the coal seam as well as development of underground roadways using continuous mining units.

Construction will commence in February 2008, with formation of the access road, general site works and formation of a box cut from which access drifts will be driven.

The Mining Lease also covers Stage Two of the Narrabri project which involves commissioning of a high capacity long wall unit. Planning approval for Stage Two will be sought from the NSW Department of Planning later this year, with the longwall scheduled for commencement in 2010.

"We are extremely pleased to have received the Mining Lease from the Minister," Whitehaven Managing Director Mr Keith Ross said.

"Narrabri is the largest project in Whitehaven's production plans, and has the potential for multiple longwalls producing high quality coal from a resource of more than 400 million tonnes," he said.

"We look forward to working with the Narrabri community as we bring this significant project into production."

For further information, please contact:

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

Tel: 07 3000 5690  
Tel: 0413 946 704  
Email: [kate@katekerrison.com.au](mailto:kate@katekerrison.com.au)

For personal use only