



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

Thursday, 4 February 2010

The Manager
Company Announcements Office
Australian Securities Exchange
Level 45, South Tower Rialto
525 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

ELECTRONIC LODGEMENT

Dear Sir or Madam

ASX/MEDIA RELEASE

I attach for release to the market an announcement regarding the signing of a long term coal haulage contract with Macarthur Coal.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F. Mead". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fiona Mead
Company Secretary

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MEDIA RELEASE

Date: Thursday, 4 February 2010

Macarthur coal haulage deal with Asciano in Queensland

Asciano announces today that it has executed a long term, take or pay contract with Macarthur Coal (C & M Management) Pty Ltd for the movement of 7 million tonnes of coal per annum from the Coppabella and Moorvale mines in Queensland commencing on 1 November 2010.

The signing of this agreement will generate total revenues of approximately \$250 million for Asciano and confirms Macarthur related entities as Asciano's largest coal haulage customer in Queensland with annualised tonnes in excess of 10 million.

Asciano Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mark Rowsthorn said, "Asciano's entry into the Queensland market has immediately raised the bar on service quality and we are extremely pleased with the confidence that Macarthur Coal has shown in our performance to date. "

"Macarthur is a dynamic organisation that is focused on delivery and performance and we look forward to continually searching for ways to contribute to their ongoing success", Mr Rowsthorn said.

"We originally planned on securing contracts totalling 30 million tonnes by the end of 2010 and that box has well and truly been ticked and what's more, every contract signed to date will deliver returns at or above our internal benchmarks", Mr Rowsthorn said.

"With our first ten train sets in Queensland contracted, Asciano will now proceed to purchasing further train sets to support its ongoing growth in this extremely important market", Mr Rowsthorn said.

"The coal haulage opportunities presented by the northern and southern missing link infrastructure projects, as well as the development of the Surat and Galilee basins, are clearly next on our agenda", Mr Rowsthorn said.

In November last year, the Queensland Government confirmed the northern missing link rail infrastructure project to support the Abbot Point 50 million tonne project and targeted January 2012 completion. In December, the Transport Minister Rachel Nolan announced that North Queensland Bulk Ports was seeking companies to express their interest for the right to develop coal terminals at Abbot Point up to 110 million tonnes.

"These developments combined with the 25 million tonne stage 1 Wiggins Island planned development provide significant opportunities for Asciano", Mr Rowsthorn said.

Ends

Further information about Asciano can be found on our internet site: www.asciano.com

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