



## **NEWS RELEASE**

# **QUEENSLAND LAND COURT DIRECTIONS HEARING**

## **WANDOAN COAL PROJECT**

Sydney, 4 May 2011

Xstrata Coal today attended a directions hearing at the Queensland Land Court in response to objections lodged relating to the Company's application for a Mining Lease for its Wandoan Coal Project.

Objections to the granting of the Mining Lease and the Draft Environmental Authority for the Project included issues relating to: water management; existing State and Federal legislative approval processes; road access to landholder properties; and the management of greenhouse gas emissions associated with the mining and subsequent burning of coal from the proposed Wandoan coal mine.

Executive General Manager of the Wandoan Coal Project, Steve Bridger, said, "Xstrata Coal takes its responsibility for environmental management very seriously and has followed a rigorous environmental assessment and review process throughout each stage of the Mining Lease Application process.

"We have also actively engaged in an ethical and transparent consultation process with landholders and the wider community over the last four years, in an effort to understand our stakeholder's concerns and work together to achieve mutually-agreeable arrangements wherever possible."

The Wandoan Coal Project received conditional environmental approval from the Commonwealth Government in March 2011, following consideration of the Project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Supplementary EIS, and the Queensland Co-ordinator General's report for the Wandoan Coal Project by the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

A comprehensive projection of the Wandoan Coal Project's estimated greenhouse gas emissions was outlined in both the Project's EIS (December 2008) and Supplementary EIS (November 2009). The Supplementary EIS shows that in year 24 of the operation of the proposed mine, when greenhouse gases are predicted to peak, the mine's emissions (excluding emissions associated with the subsequent burning of coal by third parties) would be 0.08% of the Australian total.



“Xstrata Coal is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and is currently investing more than \$250 million into a variety of projects for the development and testing of carbon capture and greenhouse gas management technologies,” said Mr Bridger.

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