



October 2011

MEDIA RELEASE

Gujarat NRE is holding an open day at its NRE No. 1 mine at Russell Vale on October 10, to showcase its state-of-the-art longwall machinery prior to commissioning underground later this year.

More than 300 guests comprising of the company's investors, bankers, community representatives, vendors, customers' and other wellwishers' have accepted the company's invitation to the event to witness a real-life simulation of one of the most modern longwall systems.

Gujarat NRE Executive Chairman Mr. Arun Kumar Jagatramka said that the open day was being held to proudly announce the commissioning and re-introduction of longwall mining at NRE No. 1 from December this year as scheduled/planned. He said his company had purchased the longwall equipment from global mining manufacturer, Joy Mining Machinery. The new longwall equipment which includes a shearer, 82 powered roof supports, coal clearance system, electrical substation, pump station and retractable mono-rail, will maximise productivity at the mine. The new equipment will have the capacity to shear, load and transport 3,500 tonnes of coking coal per hour.

Up to 20 Joy contractors in conjunction with NRE employees have been undertaking compatibility and automation trials, while crew undergo extensive training with the new machinery.

Gujarat NRE have engaged local company Longwall Hydraulics, based at Unanderra, to supply their first longwall monorail for the Australian market with Pirtek Illawarra, of Unanderra, providing all the hoses for the pump station and mono-rail system.

The longwall system will have an initial face length of 145 metres, although there is an option that would allow it to be extended to up to 390 metres within five years.

Joy will also refurbish and upgrade the existing longwall system at the second mine of the company, NRE Wongawilli, during 2013.

Mr. Jagatramka said that production from both mines, which are considered viable for at least 30 years, are on target with each mine targeted to produce around three million tonnes of coal per annum by 2015.

"By 2015 we anticipate we will be one of Australia's largest producers of prime-quality hard-coking coal." he added.

