



Media Release

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COAL INDUSTRY WELCOMES GARNAUT COMMENTS

The Australian Coal Association welcomes the release of the draft report by the Garnaut Climate Change Review and the recognition that Australia has an important role to play in a major global effort to develop low emissions coal technologies – particularly related to Carbon Capture and Storage.

“Professor Garnaut’s comments provide a strong endorsement of the action that the Australian coal industry has taken, through the \$1 billion COAL 21 Fund, to support the demonstration of low emissions coal technologies and carbon storage,” ACA Executive Director Mr Ralph Hillman said today.

“Just today the NSW Mineral Resources Minister Ian Macdonald launched a new Post Combustion Capture (PCC) pilot plant at the Munmorah power station on the State’s Central Coast.

“The development of important technologies like this will benefit from the creation of the \$100 million NSW Clean Coal Fund and the NSW Clean Coal Council also announced by Minister Macdonald today,” Mr Hillman said.

“The ACA has been working with Federal and State Governments for the establishment of a nationally coordinated approach to low emissions coal technologies and to carbon capture and storage.

This included the Clean Coal councils of NSW and Queensland and commitments by the Federal Government to establish national coordinating bodies

“The ACA agrees with Professor Garnaut’s assertion that the key to addressing global emissions at least cost ultimately lies in the development and uptake of low emission technologies by both developed and developing countries,” Mr Hillman said.

“These new technologies are needed to permit Australia to continue to exploit its comparative advantage, to maintain industry competitiveness as a resource rich economy while at the same time reducing its greenhouse gas emissions,” Mr Hillman said. .

“The development of these technologies is especially important given increasing reliance on coal globally, and particularly in the rapidly growing economies of China and India,” he said.

“It is equally important, as acknowledged by Professor Garnaut, that Australia’s response to these problems needs to be part of broader global action if there is to be a meaningful impact on climate change.”

Further information:

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