



STRIPES ENGINEERING PTY LTD – VICKERY SUPPORT STATEMENT

Stripes Engineering Services Pty Ltd (Stripes) would like to express our support for the Vickery Expansion Project.

The project is expected to have a 25-year life of mine, and this will deliver many benefits to Stripes Engineering Services.

Having already worked alongside Whitehaven Coal for the past 10 years, Stripes has experienced many of these benefits and predict that these will continue.

The benefits of our existing relationship with Whitehaven include:

- Significant growth to the business
- Generation of approximately 40 jobs, 50-60% increase
- The Stripes Group of Companies has contributed \$2.3m in the last financial year to Payroll Tax and PAYG, this significant contribution to the NSW and Federal Governments would not have been possible without our relationship and ongoing contracts with Whitehaven
- Provision of numerous projects and maintenance which have ensured stability for our workforce, and the ability to keep our teams living and working locally
- Past projects have promoted professional development and experience for many of our employees
- Our maintenance staff have increased their abilities, familiarity and experience on the fixed plant
- Stripes has been able to run a comprehensive Apprenticeship Program, each year adding new apprentices in trades such as boilermakers.
- Stripes has been able to expand and upgrade our plant and equipment

The proposed Vickery Expansion Project construction phase and the decommissioning phase of the Gunnedah Coal Handling and Preparation Plant provides an opportunity for additional work for Stripes, along with many benefits:

- Projected business growth
- The opportunity for further job opportunities
- Further, and projected increases in contributions to Payroll Tax and PAYG from the Stripes Group of Companies, with significant benefits to the State and Federal Governments in excess of \$2.3m per annum
- Stability for our workforce with local work. Having local project and maintenance contracts means that our workforce can continue to live and work locally which has significant benefits for family life. It also ensures that more of the family income stays in the local economy; and families can choose to enrol their children in the local schools, and participate fully in community life, social events and sport. This has enormous follow-on benefits to the local community and the economy
- Continuation of our Apprenticeship Program and input into local TAFE, and employment and training of local school leavers

Stripes Engineering Services supports Whitehaven's proposed Vickery Expansion Project and looks forward to the many benefits that will continue for our business, our employees and for the community in general.