



MARKET RELEASE

24 August 2010

Macarthur Coal Limited

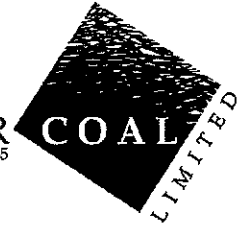
TRADING HALT

The securities of Macarthur Coal Limited (the "Company") will be placed in pre-open at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in pre-open until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Thursday, 26 August 2010 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: MCC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Seeto', is written over a circular stamp or mark.

Gregory Seeto
Adviser, Issuers (Brisbane)



Level 5, 100 Melbourne Street
South Brisbane Qld 4101
GPO Box 1025
Brisbane Qld 4001
Tel: (617) 3221 7210
Fax: (617) 3229 1776

24 August 2010

Mr Rohan Abeyewardene
Company Advisor
ASX
Level 5, Riverside Centre
123 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Rohan

Macarthur Coal Limited (Macarthur Coal) - Request for Trading Halt

Macarthur Coal (ASX:MCC) requests a trading halt prior to the commencement of trading on 24 August 2010 pending the release of an important announcement regarding an acquisition and capital raising by the company.

In accordance with Listing Rule 17.1, the company provides the following information:

- (a) Macarthur Coal requests the trading halt to continue until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on the second trading day after the trading halt commenced and when Macarthur Coal makes an announcement to the market and requests that the trading halt be lifted;
- (b) Macarthur Coal is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted; and
- (c) Macarthur is not aware of any other information necessary to inform the market about the trading halt.

Yours faithfully
MACARTHUR COAL LIMITED

Lisa Dalton
Company Secretary

