



PIKE RIVER COAL

23 August 2010

PIKE RIVER COMMENCES RAILING COAL FOR SECOND EXPORT SHIPMENT

Pike River Coal has commenced railing coal from its rail loadout facility at Ikamatua on the South Island's West Coast to the Port of Lyttelton in preparation for its second export shipment of premium hard coking coal.

Pike River's inaugural export shipment of 20,000 tonnes of premium hard coking coal went to India in February 2010. That shipment was worth approximately NZ\$3.3 million.

Chief Executive Gordon Ward says one train will run from Ikamatua to Port Lyttelton daily for the next few days, increasing to two trains per day in the latter half of this week.

"Our second export shipment, also 20,000 tonnes, is again destined for the same life-of-mine customer, Gujarat NRE and is worth approximately NZ\$6 million – significantly more than the last coal shipment due to higher coal prices.

"Our coal will be loaded onto a panamax vessel at Port Lyttelton. The vessel's current expected time of arrival at Lyttelton is 4 September 2010."

ENDS

Further information:

Gordon Ward +64 4 494 0190

Peter Whittall +64 3 769 8400

Chief Executive and Managing Director

General Manager, Mines

Pike River Coal owns the rights to a premium hard coking coal resource located 50 kilometres north-east of Greymouth, New Zealand.

Pike River shares are quoted on the NZSX and the ASX under the code "PRC"

news release