



# MARKET RELEASE

20 December 2011

**Gloucester Coal Ltd**

**TRADING HALT**

The securities of Gloucester Coal Ltd (the “Company”) will be placed in Trading Halt Session State at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in Trading Halt Session State until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Thursday, 22 December 2011 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: GCL

Emma Badhni  
**Principal Adviser, Listings (Sydney)**



20 December 2011

Ms Emma Badhni  
Senior Adviser, Listings  
ASX Markets Supervision Pty Ltd  
20 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Ms Badhni,

**Request for trading halt**

The directors of Gloucester Coal Ltd (ASX: GCL) (**Gloucester**) request a trading halt from the commencement of trading on 20 December 2011.

The trading halt is requested in connection with a potential merger proposal.

For the purposes of Listing Rule 17.1, Gloucester provides the following information:

- a) the trading halt is necessary as Gloucester expects to make an announcement in connection with a possible change of control transaction, but is not yet in a position to make the announcement;
- b) Gloucester would like the trading halt to remain in place until the commencement of trading on 22 December 2011, unless, before that time, Gloucester makes a further announcement; and
- c) Gloucester is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hemang Shah".

Hemang Shah  
Company Secretary