



ASX RELEASE

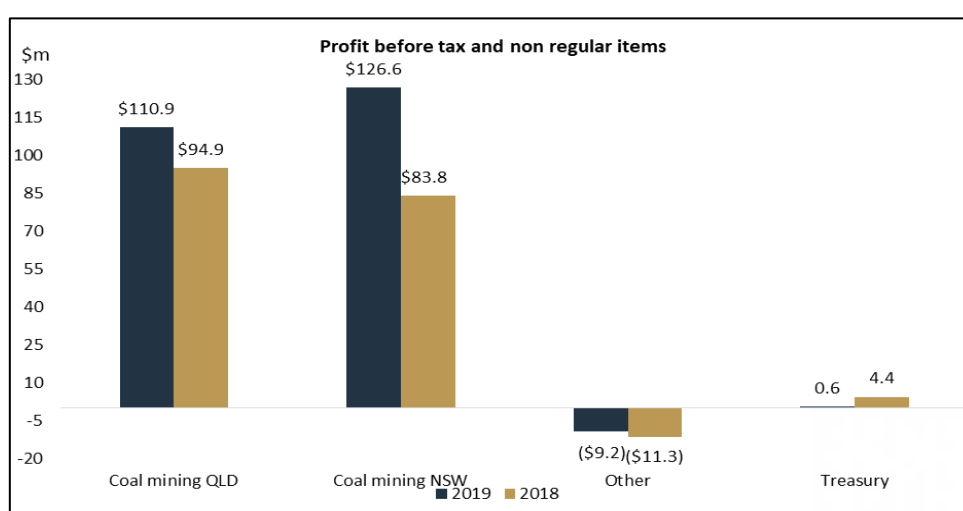
2019 Half Year Results

Company Delivers Record Half Year Result

19 March 2019

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Revenue for the first half of \$616.7 million up 21% on the prior corresponding period (PCP) being the six months ending 31 January 2018
- Profit before tax and non-regular items \$228.9 million up 33% on the PCP
- Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation, before non-regular items, of \$285.1 million up 31% on the PCP
- Net Profit After Tax before non-regular items of \$159.8 million up 33% on the PCP; and
- Fully franked interim dividend of 8cents per share.



REGISTERED OFFICE

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New Hope Group has delivered a record half year Net Profit After Tax before non-regular items of \$159.8 million, an increase of 33% above the \$120.3 recorded in the six months to January 2018.

Total revenue for the period was \$616.7 million up 21% on the PCP.

Managing Director, Shane Stephan, said, “This strong result is due to a number of factors, not the least being the Company’s increased stake in the Bengalla coal mine.”

“The acquisition of an additional 30% interest in Bengalla has brought our ownership to 70%. Increased production at Bengalla saw the mine deliver a Net Profit Before Tax of \$126.6 million for the period. Queensland mining operations contributed a Net Profit Before Tax of \$110.9 million and ensured a record first half result for the Company.”

“Coal production at Bengalla (equity share basis) was 2.4 million tonnes, 23% above the PCP in 2018.”

“After reaching agreement to acquire Mitsui’s 10% share in the Joint Venture, New Hope will hold an 80% interest in the project, with a view to transitioning to active management of the operation in the near term.”

Before non-regular items, basic earnings for the six months ended 31 January 2019 were 19.2 cents per share compared to 14.5 cents per share for the PCP.

Mr Stephan said the increased share in Bengalla and a five year debt financing package will deliver certainty of funding to underpin the Group’s growth initiatives over the medium term whilst maintaining a conservatively geared balance sheet.

“However we will continue our careful cost management over coming periods as improving commodity prices start to impact across the industry on the cost of both labour and materials.

“The Company’s commitment to maintaining long term relationships with suppliers is providing a strong competitive advantage as surplus capacity in these markets is consumed.

“To ensure uninterrupted supply to our many international and domestic customers, we need to secure the necessary approvals for the continuation of the New Acland Mine. The Queensland Land Court decision to recommend the approval of Stage 3 and subsequent decision by the Department of Environment and Science to grant the application to amend the Environmental Authority is welcomed. However we have a number of other steps to go through before the future of the mine is secured.

“Our focus for the future remains on safe and efficient production at existing operations, enabling commencement of mining operations at the Lenton Joint Venture Burton Mine and extending the life of operations at New Acland.” Mr. Stephan concluded.

(ends)

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**EARNINGS BEFORE INTEREST, TAX, DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION
(BEFORE AND AFTER NON-REGULAR ITEMS)**

Six Months Ended 31 January	2019 (A\$m)	2018 (A\$m)
2019		
Net profit after tax and non-regular items	120.2	115.6
Depreciation and amortisation	(52.8)	(46.8)
Interest	(3.5)	0.2
Income tax expense	(57.2)	(49.6)
Non regular items before tax	(51.5)	(6.7)
Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation and Non-regular items	285.2	218.5

**NET PROFIT AFTER TAX
(BEFORE AND AFTER NON-REGULAR ITEMS)**

Six Months Ended 31 January	2019 (A\$m)	2018 (A\$m)
2019		
Net profit after tax and non-regular items	120.2	115.6
Non regular items per share		
Insurance proceeds shiploader	1.7	-
Gain / (loss) discontinued operations	0.2	(4.7)
Onerous contract expenses	(11.9)	-
Acquisition costs expensed	(26.5)	-
Transaction cost on guarantee facility	(3.1)	-
Net profit after tax (before non-regular items)	159.8	120.3

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**PROFIT BEFORE TAX FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS
(BEFORE AND AFTER NON-REGULAR ITEMS)**

Six Months Ended 31 January 2019	QLD Mining (A\$m)	NSW Mining (A\$m)	Other (A\$m)	Treasury (A\$m)	Total (A\$m)
2019					
Profit before tax and after non-regular items	113.2	88.7	(21.1)	(3.8)	177.2
Non-regular items					
Insurance proceeds shiploader	2.4	-	-	-	2.4
Onerous contract expenses	-	-	(11.9)	-	(11.9)
Acquisition costs expensed	-	(37.8)	-	-	(37.8)
Transaction cost on guarantee facility	-	-	-	(4.4)	(4.4)
Profit before tax and non- regular items	110.9	126.6	(9.2)	0.6	228.9

Note: There are variances in totals included in the table above due to rounding.

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RECONCILIATION OF EARNINGS PER SHARE (BEFORE AND AFTER NON-REGULAR ITEMS)

Six Months Ended 31 January	2019 (cents)	2018 (cents)
2019		
Earnings per share after non-regular items	14.4	13.9
Non-regular items per share		
Insurance proceeds shiploader	0.2	-
Gain / (loss) discontinued operations	-	(0.6)
Onerous contract expenses	(1.4)	-
Acquisition costs expensed	(3.2)	-
Transaction cost on guarantee facility	(0.4)	-
Earnings per share before non-regular items	19.2	14.5

For more information, please contact:

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