



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **COAL & ALLIED WELCOMES ACCC APPLICATION**

Coal & Allied has welcomed the submission by terminal operators Port Waratah Coal Services (PWCS) and Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (NCIG) and the New South Wales Government to the ACCC seeking authorisation for the long term contracting framework in the Hunter Valley.

Coal & Allied Managing Director Bill Champion has described the submission to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) as 'a welcomed step'.

"This is very much welcomed, as it is an important step in the road towards achieving a long term contracting framework at the Port of Newcastle. Coal & Allied has long held the view that a firm and transparent contracting framework is critical to ensure adequate investment in infrastructure," Mr Champion said.

"The Hunter Valley coal industry has been making steady progress in reaching a long term solution to capacity issues in the coal chain.

"Today's step will help underpin the vital infrastructure that is needed to ensure that the New South Wales coal industry can be best placed for the time that the global markets recover."

Mr Champion said there had been many people involved in the work to date.

"I acknowledge there has been a lot of hard work by all of the parties in reaching this point," Mr Champion said.

"The NSW Government has played an important role in keeping this process running."

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