



## **GVK Hancock Coal and Thiess Sign Alpha Coal Mine Operations Contract**

**New Delhi, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013:** In a significant development, GVK Hancock Coal today appointed Thiess as preferred mine operations contractor for its \$10bn Alpha thermal coal project in the Galilee Basin.

An Early Services Agreement signed this week will see GVK Hancock working exclusively with Thiess to develop a 10-year mine plan and budget. Thiess' technical, engineering and plant expertise will be applied to develop the operational strategy and management plans, ensuring the thermal coal mine is a world-class, cost competitive operation. The team is expected to finalise the operational strategy, mine planning and management plan by the end of the year.

Speaking on the development, **Dr. GVK Reddy, Founder Chairman and Managing Director**, GVK said, *"We are delighted to have Thiess on board to help deliver the next phase in Alpha's operational development. It is our endeavour to take innovation to another level and embed industry leading technology and best practice from the early planning stages."*

**GVK Vice-Chairman, Mr G V Sanjay Reddy** stated, *"We look forward to working closely with Thiess in responsibly promoting the development of the Alpha Thermal Coal project. We are resetting the paradigm on everything from plant and equipment to local sourcing. I can now confidently say that we have set the tone for what will be Australia's largest coal mine."*

### **Alpha Coal and Alpha West Coal Mines**

The Alpha Coal Project, enjoys favourable geology. Its four principle layers dip from east to west and vary in thickness ranging from 3 to 8 metre. This makes the mine suitable for high-production open-cut mining. In addition, the Kevin's Corner project is currently progressing through approvals, and received the State Coordinator General's Report very recently.



***Thiess Managing Director Bruce Munro said “Thiess is excited to extend its working relationship with GVK to deliver the next phase in Alpha’s operational development. The next six months are a critical time for Thiess and GVK Hancock to work together to reinvigorate Australia’s position as the world leader in safe and highly productive operations.”***

Alpha Coal Mine is located in the Galilee Basin with the first coal to be extracted by 2016. When fully commissioned, the mine will produce 32 million tonnes of thermal coal per year.

In September 2011, GVK had acquired 79% equity stake each in Alpha Coal and Alpha West Coal Mines and 100% equity stake in Kevin’s Corner Coal Mines, located in Queensland, Australia from Hancock Coal Pty. Ltd for USD 1.26 billion. These mines have reserves of about 8 billion tonne and a capacity of more than 60 million tonne per annum. When combined, these projects will create one of the largest thermal coal mining operations in the world. GVK had acquired 100% stake in a 500 km rail link and 60 million tonne per annum port as part of the ‘pit-to-port’ logistics solution.

### **About GVK**

GVK is a leading Indian conglomerate with presence across energy, resources, airports, transportation, hospitality and life sciences sectors. GVK set up India’s first independent power plant and has around 6000 MW projects under generation and development. It is the first company in India to develop six-lane road project under PPP model and has around 3000 lane km expressway projects under operations and development. As one of India’s largest private sector airport operators, GVK handles 42 mppa through India’s first brownfield airport under PPP model - Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai and Bengaluru International Airport, Bengaluru and will develop two airports in Indonesia. Having already invested over USD 4.3 billion, GVK has projects worth over another USD 6.6 billion in the pipeline, in India. It has acquired Australian Coal Mines in Queensland with 8 bt reserves for USD 1.26 billion and envisages an investment of USD 10 billion for setting up



mines, 500 km rail link and up to 80 mtpa port project which will form one of the world's largest integrated coal mining operations.

### **About Thiess**

With an annual turnover of \$6.5 billion and 20,000 employees, Thiess is Australia's leading and most trusted construction, mining and services contractor, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Limited.

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