# AUSTRALIA'S COAL INDUSTRY



The Albanese Labor Government continues to approve coal projects. Ten projects have received federal approval during this term of government.

The Albanese Labor Government has not introduced any new hurdles for coal mines to pass during environmental approval processes. Coal mines are treated the same as other big industrial sites when it comes to requirements to reduce on-site emissions and can choose whether to purchase offsets or invest in new technologies.

### **COAL MINES APPROVED**

- √ Vulcan South extension (QLD)
- √ Caval Ridge extension (QLD)
- ✓ Lake Vermont Meadowbrook extension (QLD)
- √ Boggabri extension (NSW)
- √ Narrabri extension (NSW)
- Mount Pleasant extension (NSW)
- Ravensworth extension (NSW)
- √ Gregory Crinum extension (QLD)
- ✓ Ensham extension (QLD)
- Star bulk sample (sampling for a new coal mine in QLD)
- ✓ Isaac River (new coal mine in QLD)

#### The Guardian

Albanese government approves four coalmine expansions as Greens condemn 'despicable' move

#### THE AUSTRALIAN\*

December 19 2024

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Tanya Plibersek gives green light to four coalmine extensions despite green opposition



### APPROVALS CONTINUING, DEMAND STRONG



# AUSTRALIA'S COAL INDUSTRY



### EXPORT COAL IS PROFITABLE AND MINES ARE IN DEMAND

Export coal mines in New South Wales and Queensland remain extremely profitable ventures. While many major global mining companies, like Rio Tinto and Anglo American, have realigned their operations towards other minerals, there is no shortage of motivated buyers for coal mines. This signifies that the market is confident in the ongoing health of the coal mining industry in Australia. In the past three years, major coal mines have changed hands after very competitive bidding processes, including:

- Whitehaven taking on Blackwater and Daunia from BMA.
- The GM3 consortium acquiring Appin and Dendrobium from South32.
- Peabody successfully bidding for Anglo American's Queensland mines.

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Coal production is increasing (source: DISR Resources and Energy Quarterly)

### **COAL PRODUCTION IS INCREASING**

- 2024-25 410 million tonnes (forecast)
- 2023-24 403 million tonnes
- 2022-23 372 million tonnes



Coal production had no trouble rebounding after a rainy La Nina weather cycle affected mining regions across 2022 and 2023.

Over the next two years, Department of Industry, Science, and Resources forecasts project metallurgical coal production to rise and thermal coal production to remain steady.

### **EXPORT VOLUMES ARE INCREASING**

- 2024-25 410 million tonnes
- 2024 362 million tonnes
- 2023 353 million tonnes
- 2022 340 million tonnes



Australia remains by far the world's largest exporter of metallurgical coal, supplying 46 per cent of all met coal traded between countries. We continue to be the world's second largest exporter of thermal coal, behind only Indonesia.

(Source: DISR Resources and Energy Quarterly).

## APPROVALS CONTINUING, DEMAND STRONG

