



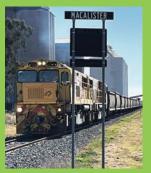
New Wilkie Energy Communications

#### Volume 2 July 2023

## inside

A word from the MD page 2

NWE begins railing coal to Port Brisbane page 3



10,000 tons crushed page 5

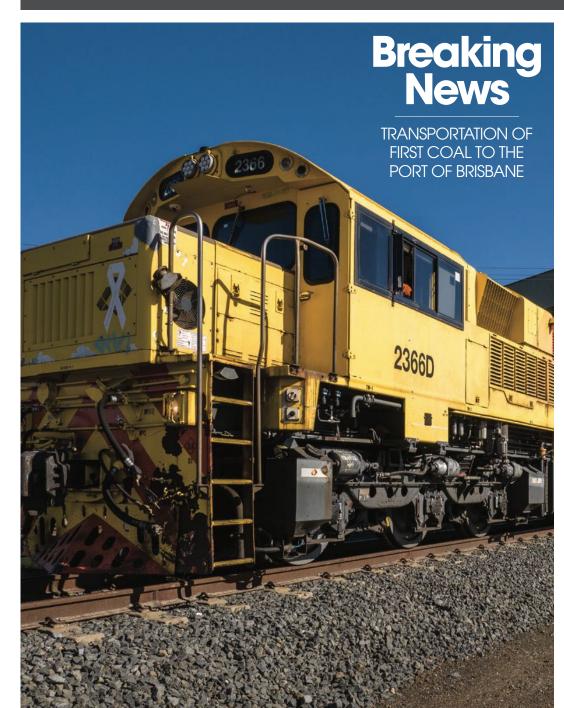
NWE achieves first domestic coal sales page 6

Coal hits the road page 7

Chris Evans joins the team page 7



New machinery commissioned and mobilised page 8















## From the **Managing Director's** chair



Welcome to the latest edition of the Mirror, reflecting on another highly eventful period for New Wilkie Energy.

This issue covers one of our biggest announcements to date – the transportation of first coal to the Port of Brisbane - plus major developments with our train load out and haulage operations, new fleet equipment, the crushing of bypass coal, staff appointments and our successful recruitment processes.

The first shipment of NWE coal for global and domestic markets is underway, with the commencement of rail-haulage from our Wilkie Creek mine to QBH.

Haulage will initially consist of one rail shipment per day, comprising 42 wagons carrying approximately 1960 tons of coal, with shipments ramping up to twice-daily as production increases. This achievement showcases the dedication of our entire team and demonstrates the strength of partnerships and our shared commitment to the success of the region.

Meanwhile, New Wilkie Energy has reached a production milestone with 10,000 tons of bypass coal now crushed and sized. The processed product is currently being transported to the train loading (TLO) system for railing.

At the time of publication, commissioning of the TLO was due to be finished, allowing for the haulage of our coal to Brisbane.

New machinery continues to be commissioned and mobilised as we increase production and embrace 24-7 operation.

NWE's most important assets are our people and we are pleased to report that our recruitment processes have been a resounding success.

With Australia's unemployment rate at a 50-year low of 3.5%, we have managed to achieve our target of hiring 110 mining operators and nearly 300 staff and contractors across our project.

One of our new team members is highlyexperienced mining professional Chris Evans, who takes the position of CHPP and Processing Manager.

Chris has more than 12 years high-level experience working as a coal quality engineer, in coal quality and logistics engineering, process engineering, metallurgy and production supervision.

Happy reading!

Gary Williams Managing Director





### **NWE** begins railing coal to **Port Brisbane**



The first shipment of New Wilkie Energy (NWE) coal for global and domestic markets is underway, with the company announcing today the commencement of rail-haulage from its Wilkie Creek mining project in Dalby to the Port of Brisbane.

Haulage will initially consist of one rail shipment per day, comprising 42 wagons carrying approximately 1960 tons of coal, with shipments ramping up to twice-daily as production increased.

New Wilkie Energy Managing Director Gary Williams said "the milestone was a testament to NWE's staff, partnerships, long term vision and strategic planning."

"This achievement showcases the dedication of our entire team and demonstrates the strength of partnerships and our shared commitment to the success of the region," Mr Williams said.

"We would particularly like to acknowledge our strategic partners in logistics infrastructure Queensland Rail (QR), Australia's largest rail freight operator Aurizon and Queensland Bulk Handling (Port of Brisbane) for the support given to allow first shipment to come to fruition," he said.

"Our first train load of coal has been delivered to QBH where it is being stockpiled. We are in the process of aggregating 55,000 metric tonnes of coal to be loaded on our first export coal vessel in late August, with the target market being Asia," Mr Williams said.

#### "We have strong interest from a number of potential buyers, " he said.

Mr Williams said discussions were also positive with Japanese customers for first sales to that country planned for Q4 2023.

"Japanese customer interest is starting to pick up after a period of high coal stocks and limited spot buying interest with hot Northern hemisphere summer conditions helping to increase coal burn," he said.

#### NWE has also negotiated several domestic coal sales with the first delivery scheduled in late July.

First coal was taken from Wilkie Creek's Macalister seam in March 2023, marking the culmination of many years of planning and hard work since the previous owners, Peabody Energy, ceased production in 2013.

Previously Wilkie Creek had operated for 20 years, selling Newcastle quality thermal coal to Japan, Taiwan and Korean utilities prior to being put on care and maintenance in 2013.

Under NWE, the site is forecast to produce approximately 2.4 million tonnes per annum of high-quality thermal coal, destined for markets in Asia.





### NWE begins railing coal to Port Brisbane (continued)

Mr Williams said NWE valued its close working relationship with the local community and Western Downs Regional Council, and looked forward to building its local workforce and integrating with the local towns of Dalby and Chinchilla.

The company's workforce is expected to increase to 350 in over the next 12 months, with a strong commitment to employing locally-based staff.

NWE's vision is to become an Australian energy producer that offsets the carbon emissions inherent in the coal business with large scale renewable energy projects over the longer term. NWE intends to utilise former mining areas at Wilkie Creek as the initial renewables (solar) development project. NWE is a substantial land owner at Wilkie Creek.

The Company is exploring wind and solar approvals to operate in the southern QLD renewable energy zone in addition to the Wilkie Creek area, as part of the QLD Government's renewable energy targets.

New Wilkie Creek has historically demonstrated a strong tradition of rehabilitation work, having previously achieved progressive certification for nearly 90 hectares of open cut mine area as part of a commitment to the environment and sustainable mining operations. In collaboration with local landholders, this rehabilitation land has been utilised for neighbouring pastoral activities.



## Train Load Out Facility complete



Our train load out (TLO) facility is complete with commissioning to start this month.

Dry commissioning will commence in mid-July whereby a train will be brought onto the siding for the first time to test our systems, conveyors and ancillary plant and equipment in a 12-hour operation. Approximately a week later we will be carrying out wet commissioning, involving loading a train of bypass coal daily to take to port.

With the delivery of the CHPP, the transport of washed coal by rail should be occurring in the near future.

#### The rail siding, TLO and loading will be carried out in-house by NWE.

Processed coal from the mine site will be stockpiled at the TLO product pad side. Coal will be segregated according to type and quality as per the requirements of the end user. To ensure the coal is not contaminated the stockpiling will be carried out with wheel loaders.

Once the train arrives, the loaders will load the feeder to fill the bin above the rail siding. This conveyor system is capable of loading 850 tons per hour.

At this stage, our train arrangement, or consist, comprises two locomotives and 42 wagons giving a net load of 1942 tons.

The consist has a 24-hour turnaround, with NWE being allocated 11 train paths per week in the first six months.





# **Production** milestone, **25,000** tons **crushed**



New Wilkie Energy has reached a production milestone with 25,000 tons of bypass coal now crushed and sized.

This has been achieved during the commissioning phase of our mobile crusher and stackers.

The crushing and stacking capability is in excess of 500 tph.

The processed product which is smaller than 50mm in size, with low ash content and high energy value is currently being transported to the train loading (TLO) system for railing.

It is anticipated that the run of mine (ROM) crusher train will commence shortly, with a 12-week time line for completion.

This will be the final piece to the puzzle for the fixed coal handling preparation plant (CHPP).

Once complete, the plant will be able to maximise yield from the coal, supplying a steady flow of high-quality low ash product for export.









## **NWE** achieves first **domestic coal sales**

New Wilkie Energy has registered another significant milestone, achieving its first domestic coal sale.

The first deliveries of New Wilkie Energy coal were successfully completed in July supplying customers in Queensland and New South Wales. We are pleased to be partnering with Clermont Bulk Haulage for the distribution of our coal to domestic Australian markets and are also proud to support the Australian customers with the coal needed to drive the economy and employ so many Australians.

The commencement of domestic sales lays a solid foundation for NWE as it sets its sights on further growth and diversification, including the imminent first export coal shipments into global markets.

## **Recruitment** processes another **success** at **NWE**

NWE is celebrating another triumph, with our recruitment processes proving a resounding success.

With Australia's unemployment rate at a 50-year low of 3.5%, NWE has managed to achieve its target of hiring 110 mining operators and nearly 300 staff and contractors across its project.

Under the guidance of HR Manager Jodie Callaghan and her dedicated team, NWE has swiftly assembled a highly skilled workforce through an extensive recruitment program. Every application has been meticulously vetted and checked to ensure the best candidates are selected.

"Our team has put in tremendous effort and we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments," Jodie said.

"Our success stems from our strong community spirit and commitment to the Dalby and Chinchilla regions. We prioritise employing individuals from our region, allowing people to stay close to home." NWE has been successful in attracting talent from diverse backgrounds and professions. Job opportunities in the mine include mining operators, open-cut examiner and supervisors, fitters, mechanics, electricians, warehousing staff, superintendents, managers, builders, civil plant operators and various specialty trades.

Many of the employees have welcomed the chance to upskill or cross-skill within the industry, even if they had no prior experience.

Leigh Magnussen, a local Dalby resident who previously worked at the post office is now operating a dump truck at NWE. We have also seen individuals transitioning from careers such as hospitality and farming to work within our operations.

New Wilkie Energy takes great pride in our commitment to diversity and equal opportunity employment.

Our program aims to introduce fresh thinking and new skills to the mining industry by providing locals with opportunities they might not have otherwise had.

The program includes entry-level operator positions, targeted training programs and support of succession planning in future recruitment phases.



Furthermore, NWE has specially focussed on ensuring a diversified workforce supporting more females and indigenous employees in joining our ranks.

These roles are predominantly reserved for candidates residing locally, with a commitment to avoiding fly-in-fly-out arrangements where possible.

With its successful recruitment processes, NWE contributes to the growth of local communities while meeting the demands of the thriving mining industry.



# Coal hits the road, ready for railing



NWE coal has 'hit the road' with major haulage operations underway transporting the stockpiled processed product to the TLO, a distance of 14km by public road.

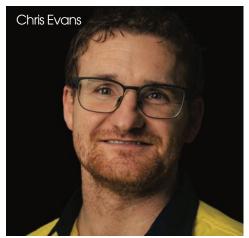
The coal is being loaded onto road trains by wheeled loaders equipped with scales providing an accurate measure of product leaving the site to ensure heavy vehicle compliance. Road train combinations during the dayshift will be by a prime mover and three-trailer combination (AB Triple) delivering an approximate 70-ton pay load.

By night the combinations will consist of a prime mover and four-trailer combination (AAB Quad) delivering a 100-ton payload.

Each combination is capable of transporting 1200 tons per 24-hour cycle. To increase productivity the combinations have been set up to "tip on the go". As such they do not need to stop to discharge the coal from the bins.







### Chris joins team as CHPP and Processing Manager

New Wilkie Energy is pleased to announce the appointment of highly-experienced mining professional Chris Evans to the position of CHPP and Processing Manager.

Chris has more than 12 years high-level experience working as a coal quality engineer, in coal quality and logistics engineering, process engineering, metallurgy and production supervision.

Prior to joining NWE, he was Senior Coal Quality Engineer at Whitehaven Coal in Newcastle overseeing coal quality modelling and product quality planning.

Chris has also worked as Senior Coal Quality and Logistics engineer for MACH Energy based in Muswellbrook and as Group Process Engineer for SADA Coal Services in Helensburgh, NSW.

His position at NWE forms part of the site leadership team and he will lead the coal handling and processing functions on site.

Chris will be accountable for the design, construction, implementation and eventual operation of the Coal Handling and Preparation Plant (CHPP) and Train Load Out as part of the recommencement of mining at NWE.

This incorporates developing systems and processes that drive innovation and safety to achieve legislative and business objectives.

In his group role with NWE, Chris will also be involved in feasibility works for the Corvus project.

Chris holds a Bachelor of Engineering with 1st class honours from the University of Newcastle and is undertaking a Bachelor of Laws at Queensland University of Technology.





### New machinery commissioned and mobilised



New machinery continues to be commissioned and mobilised as New Wilkie Energy increases production.

Maintenance Manager Ben Dyer and his team are overseeing the introduction of new fleet machinery as the site embraces 24-7 operation.

"We now have four crews with six people in each working around the clock, it's extremely busy," said Ben who relocated with his wife Megan and two daughters, Rose and Ivy to Dalby at the start of 2023 to further his career with NWE and be closer to Megan's family.

"We have mobilised one of the new **Komatsu HD1500-8's**, it is now in use, and we have two more arriving shortly which will be operational in early July. We anticipate another three of these dump trucks being delivered by the end of the year," Ben said.

These 150-tonne class trucks are matched to wheel loaders used for the thin seam separation of coal and partings. They will be deployed for transporting coal from the pit to the ROM. A Komatsu trainer is onsite conducting operations training in readiness for the fleet expansion.

Another significant piece of equipment recently commission is the Epiroc D65 down-the-hole drill rig which can perform high-precision drilling in any weather conditions, optimise drilling and blasting, improve efficiency and safety, and allow to access lower coal seams.

Also scheduled for commissioning this year will be four new **Cat 793F dump trucks** each with a capacity to carry 240 tonnes, the first of which is arriving in July. These dumptrucks will be matched to the new 600-tonne class **Hitachi EX5600-7 excavator** scheduled for delivery mid-September.

Ben and his team are also responsible for servicing and maintenance of NWE's extensive dry hire fleet which includes a 400-tonne class RH170 Excavator, four Cat 789C & six Cat 777F Dump Trucks, three Cat 992 & one Cat 993K Wheel Loaders, two 16-foot Cat Graders, a Cat 773F Water Cart, a Cat 773D Service Cart, two D11T, 2 D9T and a D10T Track Dozer.





NWE also holds interests in a large renewable development project to be constructed in association with mining activities at the Wilkie Creek coal mine. NWE intends to be a platform for sustainable energy through the development of coal mining assets in conjunction with renewable energy projects.

#### Stay informed with all our updates & future developments "providing energy into the future"









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visit nwe.energy