

ASX RELEASE (ASX:AQC) 29 JULY 2016

Quarterly Report for the period ended 30 June 2016

<u>Highlights</u>

- The Company is on track to acquire 100% of the Dartbrook Joint Venture ('Dartbrook' or 'the Project').
- The acquisition consists of Anglo American Plc's ('Anglo') 83.33% interest in the Dartbrook Joint Venture together with Marubeni Coal Pty Ltd's ('Marubeni') 16.67% interest in Dartbrook. As announced on 18 May 2016, Marubeni has executed formal documentation in relation to their tag-along sale of their 16.67% interest in the Dartbrook Joint Venture to the Company.
- The Company has secured the funding necessary to purchase Marubeni Coal Pty Ltd's 16.67% interest in the Dartbrook Joint Venture.
- Previously reported, the Company raised \$20 million in connection with its funding needs pertaining to the Dartbrook acquisition. The \$20 million raised, together with a further \$4.5 million of cash reserves from AQC, has been placed in escrow pending completion of the acquisition. (See further below)
- Finalisation of the outstanding funding necessary for completion of the Dartbrook acquisition is well advanced. The Company has a non-binding indication that cornerstone investor Trepang Services Pty Ltd intends to arrange for the provision of the Company's outstanding funding requirements.
- On 24 May 2016 the Company announced a total Coal Resource Estimate at Dartbrook of 1.2 billion tonnes. The Coal Resource Estimate comprises 466 million tonnes of Measured Resources, 449 million tonnes of Indicated Resources and 294 million tonnes of Inferred Resources to a maximum depth of 350m.
- The Company has commenced arrangements to enable a smooth transition of the Project from Anglo to the Company. The Company is currently in the final stages of a business case analysis to assess the potential of re-commencing underground mining operations at the site.



Funding

On 2nd February 2016 the Company announced that it had raised a total of \$20 million, through the issue of convertible loans to Messrs John Robinson and Nick Paspaley, the owners and controllers of cornerstone investor, Trepang Services Pty Ltd, for the purpose of funding the acquisition of its 83.33% interest in the Dartbrook Joint Venture. The \$20 million raised, together with a further \$4.5 million of cash reserves from AQC, has been placed in escrow pending completion of the Dartbrook acquisition.

On 16 June 2016 the Company announced that it had negotiated a variation of the terms and conditions of these convertible loans. While the total principal amount of \$20 million remained unchanged, the interest rate on these convertible loans was reduced to 10% per annum *(previously 15% per annum)* with these loans now being secured against the Company's assets. Subject to shareholder approval, the principal and interest is able to be converted by the convertible loan holders into ordinary shares in AQC at \$0.015 per share. The Summary Terms and Conditions of the Amended Convertible Loan Deeds are set out in the Company's 16 June 2016 ASX Release.

On 27 April 2016 the Company announced that it has secured the funding necessary to purchase Marubeni Coal Pty Ltd's 16.67% interest in the Dartbrook Joint Venture. Trepang Services Pty Ltd has undertaken to provide the necessary purchase consideration of \$5 million by way of a secured, interest bearing, loan to the Company for this purpose ('the Loan'). The Loan has a three-year term and an interest rate of 10% per annum. The provision of the Loan is subject to the execution of a general security deed over all property of the Company following the receipt of shareholder approval as required by the ASX Listing Rules.

Trepang Services Pty Ltd has also provided a non-binding indication that it intends to arrange for the provision of the balance of AQC's funding requirements in connection with the acquisition of Dartbrook. This funding is subject to AQC and Trepang (or other parties) agreeing the commercial terms and conditions of this funding, formal transactions documents being entered into and any required shareholder approvals being obtained. The Company will be actively working with Trepang to seek to formally secure the required funding as quickly as possible. However, due to the nature of this non-binding indication, there is no assurance that such funding will be secured from Trepang (or other parties).

Dartbrook Project

The Company will be able to move to completion of the Dartbrook acquisition as soon as the remaining conditions precedent under the 'Sale and Purchase Agreement – Dartbrook' are either waived or satisfied. The Company is conducting its activities so as to be in a position to ensure the smooth handover of the mine from the Anglo American Plc group. Consideration is currently being given to the potential for recommencement of the

Dartbrook underground mining operations and this analysis is well advanced.

In the coming months the Company anticipates conducting a series of community briefings setting out its proposals for the Dartbrook mine.

Dartbrook is a tier 1 asset, strategically located and well equipped with existing infrastructure and facilities. As concerns about greenhouse gas emissions increase, the Company believes that high quality thermal coal will remain one of the core sources for energy production.



Dartbrook Land Holding and Tenure

Management Changes

The following changes to the board of the Company took place during the quarter:

- Mr John Robinson Jnr, previously a Non-Executive Director of the Company, was appointed to the role of Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the Company on the 13th April, and 6th July 2016, respectively.
- Mr Kevin Mischewski replaced Mr Shane Cranswick as Company Secretary and Chief Financial Officer of the Company on 22 June 2016.

For further information, please contact:

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Compliance Statement

Dartbrook Coal Resource Estimate:

The information is extracted from the report entitled '*Australian Pacific Coal Commissioned Coal Resource Estimate at Dartbrook of 1.2 billion tonnes*' created on 24 May 2016 and is available to view on www.aqcltd.com.

The company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the original market announcements and, in the case of estimates of Mineral Resources or Ore Reserves, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement.