



# Media Release

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## IMPORTANT BOOST TO AUSTRALIAN COLLABORATION WITH CHINA ON CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY

The Australian coal industry welcomed the Prime Minister's announcement today to commit A\$20 million to collaborative work with China on clean coal technologies.

Australian Coal Association Executive Director Ralph Hillman said that "ongoing collaboration with China on the development, demonstration and deployment of clean coal technologies was essential to a global transition to a low emission future". China is the world's largest coal producer.

Mr Hillman noted that a strong ongoing commitment to research, development and demonstration (RD&D) to establish a portfolio of low emission technologies, including renewables and other measures to improve energy efficiency would be needed to deliver significant global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions over the long term.

The Australian coal industry is an active participant in the Australia-China Joint Coordination Group on Clean Coal Technology and AP6 Cleaner Fossil Energy Taskforce which are important international initiatives that complement the industry's commitment to the COAL21 national agenda and the A\$1 billion plus COAL21 Fund.

In March 2006, the ACA announced the establishment of the COAL21 Fund as part of a world-first whole-of-industry funding approach to support greenhouse gas abatement. The Australian black coal industry will raise more than A\$1 billion over the next decade through the COAL21 Fund to support the demonstration of low emissions technologies in the power generation sector and supporting R&D.

Clean coal technologies refer to technologies designed to enhance the environmental performance of coal used in power generation. These technologies aim to deliver significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by capturing carbon dioxide from the combustion process and injecting it into deep geological formations for permanent safe storage.

**Further information:** contact: Doug Holden 0431 006 044, ACA, or, Jim Devine, Queensland Resources Council 0412 190 021, or, Jai McDermott, NSW Minerals Council on 0400 435 646. Further information on the COAL21 initiative and the COAL21 Fund can be found at [www.australiancoal.com.au](http://www.australiancoal.com.au) or [www.coal21.com.au](http://www.coal21.com.au)