

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

23 November 2021

## Statement on NSW EPA Notice – Maules Creek

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Whitehaven Coal (ASX:WHC) has received a Prevention Notice (Notice) from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in relation to blasting activities at its Maules Creek Mine.

The Notice prevents unrestricted blasting activity at the site pending an investigation by an independent expert and implementation of corrective actions to minimise the risk of blast fume. The independent expert has been appointed and commenced work.

Maules Creek is permitted to continue blasting activity on an interim basis in accordance with the recommendations of the independent expert as approved by the EPA.

The Notice is in response to an increase in fume events at Maules Creek since 1 October 2021 when Whitehaven changed its explosives supplier.

There is no suggestion the fume events in question resulted in harm to human safety. Whitehaven has been working closely with its new supplier on a blasting procedure and design improvement plan for a number of weeks.

The Notice acknowledges there have been very few visible blast fume events from the many hundreds of blasts conducted at the site since it began operating in 2014.

Whitehaven will continue to cooperate fully with the EPA on this matter, sharing detailed information on technical aspects and mitigation measures.

The company confirms production guidance at Maules Creek for FY22 is unchanged.

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*This announcement is authorised for release to the market by the Managing Director and CEO of Whitehaven Coal Limited.*