



18 October 2004

Curragh North

Wesfarmers Curragh Pty Ltd has executed a contract with Thiess Pty Ltd for the construction of civil infrastructure and for initial mining activities as part of the Curragh North project.

Civil and mining works are scheduled to commence in mid-November 2004, with the project scheduled to produce first coal at the end of the first quarter of calendar 2005.

The civil infrastructure will include a range of site infrastructure support facilities, an access road from Curragh North to the existing mine at Curragh and a levee bank adjacent to the McKenzie River.

Initial mining activities will include haul roads and mining access ramps, excavation of water storage dams and approximately 4 years of pre-strip waste operations.

The contract will support a peak workforce of about 200 people for the civil works and about 130 people for the mining works.

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