



CITIC RESOURCES HOLDINGS LIMITED

中信資源控股有限公司

ACQUISITION OF SHARES IN MACARTHUR COAL LIMITED WITH A CONSIDERATION OF HK\$ 770 MILLION

DISPOSAL OF ASSET IN AUSTRALIA TO MACARTHUR COAL LEADS TO GREAT POTENTIAL FOR POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION IN FUTURE

(Hong Kong, 23 December 2009) – CITIC Resources Holdings Limited (“CITIC Resources” or the “Company”) (SEHK: 1205) announced on 22 December 2009 the disposal of 7% interest in the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture (the “CMJV Interest”) and the termination of CITIC Marketing Agency Agreement.

CITIC Australia Coal Pty Limited (“CITIC Coal”), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, has conditionally agreed to sell the CMJV Interest to Macarthur Coal Limited (“Macarthur Coal”). The sale of the CMJV Interest will be achieved through the transfer of the sale shares and all other assets and liabilities held by CITIC Coal in respect of the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture to Macarthur Coal for a consideration of A\$105 million (HK\$735 million). Upon completion of the sale of the sale shares to Macarthur Coal, the CITIC Marketing Agency Agreement and thereby the right of CITIC Coal or a related entity to market all coal produced by the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture to the Chinese customers in the PRC shall be terminated in return for a cancellation fee of A\$5 million (HK\$35 million). Macarthur Coal shall issue 11,340,206 consideration shares at an issue price of A\$9.70 (HK\$67.90) per consideration share in satisfaction of the payment of the sale shares consideration and the cancellation fee. The issue price is a discount of 0.1% compared with the closing price on Monday.

Macarthur Coal announced on the same day that assuming completion of the Gloucester Offer and the Noble Group transaction, and there being no adjustment to the sale shares consideration, CITIC Resources will hold a 15.32% interest in Macarthur Coal.

Macarthur Coal has a portfolio of high quality operating metallurgical coal mines, strong pipeline of development projects, a highly promising exploration portfolio and an experienced and capable management team and board of directors. With no debt and a market capitalization exceeding A\$2.5 billion (HK\$17.5 billion), Macarthur Coal has strong growth potential both organically and through acquisitions. The sale of the CMJV Interest increases Macarthur Coal’s interest to 80.30% in the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture, which raises the attributable reserves and resources, production and future cash flow. The transaction enables Macarthur Coal to internalise the marketing of all production of the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture into the high growth markets for low volatile pulverized coal injection coal (“PCI coal”) of China and India.

Mr. Sun Xinguo, Chief Executive Officer of the Company said, “The Company believes that there is a huge growth potential for Macarthur Coal and if external assistance is provided, the business will bring superior investment returns to its shareholders. Therefore, the Company’s long term strategy is to support Macarthur Coal’s growth and support Macarthur Coal to become one of Australia’s largest independent coal producers. The increase of

Macarthur Coal's interest in Coppabella and Moorvale will have the potential to positively contribute to Macarthur Coal's broader investment appeal and will improve the liquidity of its investments. Furthermore, the transaction will convert the Company's minority project interest in the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture into a larger and more strategic shareholding position in a leading independent Australian listed coal producer, allowing the Company to gain an additional benefit from an exposure to the wider range of coal investments held by Macarthur Coal."

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About Macarthur Coal Limited (Stock Code: MCC.AX)

Macarthur Coal is a public company listed on the ASX. It is involved in operation, exploration, development and mining activities in the Bowen Basin in the State of Queensland, Australia. Macarthur Coal's principal product is low volatile PCI coal for use in the production of steel. Macarthur Coal is a key supplier of low volatile PCI coal to the steel mills of Asia, Europe and Brazil and also produces some thermal and coking coal. Macarthur Coal owns 73.30% of the Coppabella and Moorvale Joint Venture.

About CITIC Resources Holdings Limited (Stock Code: 1205.HK)

CITIC Resources Holdings Limited (Stock code: 1205 HK) ("CITIC Resources") was listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange since 1997. CITIC Group is the parent company of CITIC Resources with majority stake of about 54%. CITIC Resources positions itself as a provider of diversified energy and natural resources, particularly focusing on the oil business. The principal activities of CITIC Resources and its subsidiaries include aluminium smelting, coal, import and export of commodities, manganese mining and processing, and oil exploration, development and production.

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