

## Aquila enters into New Mine Contract with John Holland



Aquila Resources Limited (ASX:AQA “the Company” or “Aquila”) is pleased to announce that it has signed a Mining Services Contract with John Holland Queensland Pty Ltd (“John Holland”) for the coal operations at the Isaac Plains Coal Mine in Central Queensland. This is the culmination of an extended tender program conducted throughout 2009. The Isaac Plains Coal Mine is an open cut operation, which produces both metallurgical coal and thermal coal. It is located approximately 180 kilometres west of Mackay in the Bowen Basin region of Queensland and is owned equally with Vale Australia Holdings Pty Ltd.

The contract is valued at approximately \$260 million over the 30 month term which commenced on 1 January 2010. John Holland will provide full service mining operations at the Isaac Plains Coal Mine as statutory operator, including clearing, topsoil stripping, drill and blast, truck excavator waste removal, coal mining, rejects haulage, dump profiling and rehabilitation works. This agreement consolidates the relationship that was forged when the contractor mobilised to site under a temporary arrangement and commenced mining operations from 1 October 2009.

Signing with John Holland represents another step towards simplifying the Isaac Plains operation and bringing it to steady state and consistent production. It is also an important foundation in the move to increase the mine’s production to the target of 3.6 million tonnes of run of mine coal per annum – which is awaiting a final step in the Environmental Approval.

### **Tony Poli** **Executive Chairman**

For further information regarding this announcement, please contact Tony Poli.

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