

18 August 2017

Ms Anjuli Sinniah Australian Securities Exchange Limited Level 40 Central Park 152 - 158 St George's Terrace PERTH WA 6000

By Email: anjuli.sinniah@asx.com.au and tradinghaltsperth@asx.com.au

Dear Ms Sinniah

# **ASX JUNE QUARTER 2017 CASH FLOW REPORT QUERY**

We refer to your letter dated 17 August 2017 regarding Allegiance Coal Limited's (Allegiance or the Company) Appendix 5B quarerly cash flow report for the quarter and 12 months ended 30 June 2017

(Appendix 5B) and respond to each point as follows:

1. Does AHQ expect that it will continue to have negative operating cash flows for the time being and, if not, why not?

In common with resource exploration and development companies, Allegiance expects that it will continue to have negative operating cash flows until such time as it is able to bring an operating mine into production.

2. Has AHQ taken any steps, or does it propose to take any steps, to raise further cash to fund its operations and, if so, what are those steps and how likely does it believe that they will be successful?

The Company requires additional funding to meet its business objectives and intends to secure such funding from sources including but not limited to:

- Further equity capital raisings;
- The potential farm-out of participating interests in the Company's tenements and rights; and / or
- Other financing arrangements.

As reflected in the Appendix 5B, during the year ended 30 June 2017, the Company generated proceeds from the issue of shares amounting to \$4,044,000, before costs.

As also reflected in the Appendix 5B, as at 30 June 2017 the Company had cash on hand of \$1,637,000.

The Company currently has capacity to place up to 33,899,285 ordinary shares without shareholder approval, in accordance with ASX Listing Rule 7.1.



The Company's officers are in regular contact with Allegiance's major shareholders and other potential investors and the Directors believe on reasonable grounds that the financing steps outlined above will be successful.

# 3. Does AHQ expect to be able to continue its operations and to meet its business objectives and, if so, on what basis?

Having carefully assessed the likelihood of securing additional funding (as set out in the answer to question 2 above), the Company's ability to effectively manage its expenditures and cash flows from operations and the opportunity to farm-out participating interests in existing permits and rights, the Directors believe that the Company will be able to continue its operations and meet its business objectives for the foreseeable future.

4. Please provide any other information that AHQ considers may be relevant to ASX forming an opinion on whether AHQ is in compliance with Listing Rule 12.2 (a listed entity's financial condition must, in ASX's opinion, be adequate to warrant the continued quotation of its securities and its continued listing).

The Company is currently fast-tracking development of the Telkwa metallurgical coal project (**Project**) in British Columbia, Canada. The Company refers to the results of the staged production prefeasibility study as summarized in the ASX announcement dated 3 July 2017 (**PFS Release**), which the Company believes are outstanding given they indicate the Project is positioned in the lowest five percentile of the global seaborne metallurgical coal cost curve.

The PFS assumes production commences at 250,000 tonnes per annum of saleable coal, ramping in year three to 750,000 saleable tonnes per annum, and in year four to 1,750,000 saleable tonnes per annum. 250,000 tonnes per annum is relevant because to mine at that rate or less, under British Columbia mining and environmental legislation, involves a potentially quicker permitting process, and as the PFS Release disclosed, has a low start up capital expenditure requirement. The PFS confirmed therefore, that the Company's approach is very much achievable.

The table below, summarises the key highlights.

PFS Key Highlights	Units	
Proven and probable reserves of saleable coal (Reserves)	Mt	42.5
Average life of mine strip ratio to recover the Reserves	BCM/PRODt	8.5:1
Clean all metallurgical coal yield for the Tenas pit (50% of Reserves)	%	75
Clean all metallurgical coal yield for all three pits	%	68
Stage one start-up capital expenditure	US\$M	51
Stage two start-up capital expenditure	US\$M	162
All in FOB cash cost (pre-corporate taxes)	US\$	55
Assumed average sales price over 30 years for a Telkwa PCI delivered product	US\$	110
EBITDA margin ratio	%	50
FOB cash cost plus sustaining capital breakeven point	US\$	60
Post-tax net present value @ 10%	US\$M	243
Post-tax internal rate of return	%	30



The PFS confirmed that at whatever level of production the Project adopts, it will be one of the lowest cost producers of seaborne metallurgical coal.

5. Please confirm that AHQ is in compliance with Listing Rule 3.1 and that there is no information about its financial condition that should be given to ASX in accordance with that Rule that has not already been released to the market.

We confirm that the Company is in compliance with ASX Listing Rule 3.1.

6. Please confirm that AHQ's responses to the questions above have been authorised and approved in accordance with its published continuous disclosure policy or otherwise by its board or an officer of AHQ with delegated authority from the board to respond to ASX on disclosure matters.

We confirm that the Company's response to the questions has been authorised by the Company Secretary, being the officer of the Company with delegated authority from the Board to respond to ASX's letter.

Yours sincerely

**Allegiance Coal Limited** 

sld-

Jonathan Reynolds

**Company Secretary** 

For more information, please contact:

### Mr Malcolm Carson

Chairman, Allegiance Coal Limited

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## Mr Mark Gray

Managing Director, Allegiance Coal Limited

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## **About Allegiance Coal**

Allegiance Coal is a publicly listed (ASX:AHQ) Australian company fast tracking a metallurgical coal mine into production in British Columbia, Canada. The Telkwa metallurgical coal project (**Project**) is the Company's flagship project comprising 148Mt of JORC compliant coal resource of which 131Mt is in the Measured Category. The Project has been the subject of extensive historical exploration and most recently of a pre-feasibility study declaring 43Mt of proven and probable reserves, and positioning the Project in the lowest five percentile of the global seaborne metallurgical coal cost curve.

#### **Coal Resources and Reserves**

The coal resources and reserves referred to in this announcement (unless otherwise stated in this announcemnet) were first reported in the Company's ASX announcement of 3 July 2017 (**Previous Announcement**). The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in tPrevious Announcement and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the Previous Announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.



17 August 2017

Jonathan Reynolds Company Secretary Suite 107, 109 Pitt Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: jreynolds@allegiancecoal.com.au

Dear Jonathan

## Allegiance Coal Limited ("AHQ"): Appendix 5B Query

I refer to AHQ's Appendix 5B quarterly report for the period ended 30 June 2017 lodged with ASX Market Announcements Platform on 28 July 2017 (the "Appendix 5B").

ASX notes that AHQ has reported:

- negative net operating cash flows for the quarter of \$1,271,000;
- cash at the end of the quarter of \$1,637,000; and
- estimated cash outflows for the next quarter of \$935,000.

It is possible to conclude, based on the information in the Appendix 5B that if AHQ were to continue to expend cash at the rate indicated by the Appendix 5B, AHQ may not have sufficient cash to continue funding its operations. In view of that, ASX asks AHQ to respond separately to each of the following questions and requests for information:

- 1. Does AHQ expect that it will continue to have negative operating cash flows for the time being and, if not, why not?
- 2. Has AHQ taken any steps, or does it propose to take any steps, to raise further cash to fund its operations and, if so, what are those steps and how likely does it believe that they will be successful?
- 3. Does AHQ expect to be able to continue its operations and to meet its business objectives and, if so, on what basis?
- 4. Please provide any other information that A considers may be relevant to ASX forming an opinion on whether AHQ is in compliance with Listing Rule 12.2 (a listed entity's financial condition must, in ASX's opinion, be adequate to warrant the continued quotation of its securities and its continued listing).
- 5. Please confirm that AHQ is in compliance with Listing Rule 3.1 and that there is no information about its financial condition that should be given to ASX in accordance with that Rule that has not already been released to the market.
- 6. Please confirm that AHQ's responses to the questions above have been authorised and approved in accordance with its published continuous disclosure policy or otherwise by its board or an officer of AHQ with delegated authority from the board to respond to ASX on disclosure matters.



## When and where to send your response

This request is made under, and in accordance with Listing Rule 18.7. Your response is required as soon as reasonably possible and, in any event, by not later than 7.30am AWST Monday 21 August 2017. If we do not have your response by then, ASX will have no choice but to consider suspending trading in AHQ's securities under Listing Rule 17.3.

You should note that if the information requested by this letter is information required to be given to ASX under Listing Rule 3.1 and it does not fall within the exceptions mentioned in Listing Rule 3.1A, AHQ's obligation is to disclose the information "immediately". This may require the information to be disclosed before the deadline set out in the previous paragraph.

ASX reserves the right to release a copy of this letter and your response on the ASX Market Announcements Platform under Listing Rule 18.7A. Accordingly, your response should be in a form suitable for release to the market.

Your response should be sent to me by e-mail at <a href="mailto:anjuli.sinniah@asx.com.au">anjuli.sinniah@asx.com.au</a> and <a href="mailto:tradinghaltsperth@asx.com.au">tradinghaltsperth@asx.com.au</a>. It should <a href="mailto:not">not</a> be sent directly to the ASX Market Announcements Office. This is to allow me to review your response to confirm that it is in a form appropriate for release to the market, before it is published on the ASX Market Announcements Platform.

## Listing Rule 3.1

Listing Rule 3.1 requires a listed entity to give ASX immediately any information concerning it that a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the entity's securities. Exceptions to this requirement are set out in Listing Rule 3.1A.

In responding to this letter, you should have regard to AHQ's obligations under Listing Rules 3.1 and 3.1A and also to Guidance Note 8 *Continuous Disclosure: Listing Rules 3.1 – 3.1B*.

It should be noted that AHQ's obligation to disclose information under Listing Rule 3.1 is not confined to, nor is it necessarily satisfied by, answering the questions set out in this letter.

## **Trading halt**

If you are unable to respond to this letter by the time specified above, you should discuss with us whether it is appropriate to request a trading halt in AHQ's securities under Listing Rule 17.1.

If you wish to request a trading halt, you must tell us:

- the reasons for the trading halt;
- how long you want the trading halt to last;
- the event you expect to happen that will end the trading halt;
- that you are not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted; and
- any other information necessary to inform the market about the trading halt, or that we ask for.

We may require the request for a trading halt to be in writing. The trading halt cannot extend past the commencement of normal trading on the second day after the day on which it is granted.

You can find further information about trading halts in Guidance Note 16 *Trading Halts & Voluntary Suspensions*.



If you have any queries or concerns about any of the above, please contact me immediately.

Yours sincerely,

[sent electronically without signature]

Anjuli Sinniah

**Senior Adviser, Listings Compliance (Perth)**