

HD Several Japanese Firms Acquire Overseas Coal Assets; Sumitomo Corporation acquires assets in Australia and Idemitsu Kosan assets in Indonesia

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While Chinese firms including Baosteel Group Corporation have been working toward to impound excellent coal assets, several Japanese firms have been acquiring coal assets in Australia, etc. one after the other for these two months or so.

Firstly, Sumitomo Corporation obtained the interest in Clermont coal mine, a large-size thermal coal mine in the State of QLD in cooperation with Glencore plc on June 2.

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GS Coal Pty Ltd in which Sumitomo and Glencore have a 50% investment respectively has obtained a 50.1% interest in Clermont coal mine from Rio Tinto plc. The interest purchase amount is a total of US\$1.015 billion.

Accordingly, the interest in Clermont **coal** mine has been 50.1% owned by GS **Coal**, 31.4% by Mitsubishi Corporation, 15.0% by J-Power and 3.5% by Japan **Coal** Development Co., Ltd. (JCD).

In this regard, Sumitomo and Glencore indirectly have a 25.05% interest respectively in Clermont coal mine through GS Coal.

Clermont **coal** mine is an opencast thermal **coal** mine in the Bowen Basin, QLD and the production volume of saleable **coal** in FY2012/13 (one year ending on 30 June 2013) was 10.287 **million** tons, and the **coal** export volume was 9.968 **million** tons, of which 4.824 **million** tons was exported to Japan.

What's more, Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd. acquired 12% of shares in PT Mitrabara Adiperdana (MA), a coal mining company in Indonesia on July 10.

MA is an affiliated **company** of Baramulti Group, a **mining company** in Indonesia and now running Malinau opencast **coal** mine in the North Kalimantan.

The type of coal produced at Malinau coal mine is low-sulfur, low-ash subbituminous coal (Sul: 0.15%, Ash: 3.5% and CV: 5,500kcal/kg), and 2.5 million tons of coal is expected to be produced in 2014. Furthermore from 2015 onwards, the production volume is supposed to be fortified to 4Mtpa.

Idemitsu Kosan obtained 3% of shares in PT Baramulti Saksessarana Tbk, an affiliated company of Baramulti Group in November 2012. The Company is now running Antang Gunung Meratus (AGM) coal mine in the South Kalimantan.

The type of **coal** produced at AGM **coal** mine is low-sulfur, low-ash subbituminous **coal**, and the **coal** production volume will be lifted to over 7Mtpa in the future.

Idemitsu Kosan has a thought of further strengthening the relationship with Baramulti Group based on **acquisition** of shares in MA and expanding the export of **coal** produced by this group predominantly to Japan and other Asian countries.

In the meantime, on May 16, Sojitz Corporation made an agreement with U&D **Coal** Limited, Australia to set up a joint venture (JV) for the purpose to promote Meteor Downs South project (MDS project) in QLD on a conjoint basis.

MDS project aims to exploit MDS opencast mining area as part of Orion Downs project planned by U&DCoal in the Bowen Basin, QLD. At this mining area, 1.5Mtpa of thermal coal is expected to be produced.

Sojitz will be able to obtain a 50% interest in MDS project by bearing **coal** development cost, etc.

MDS opencast **mining** area is located 65 km to the southeast of Minerva opencast **coal** mine run by Sojitz. In light of the **coal** resource at Minerva **coal** mine being depleted in 2018 - 2019, Sojitz plans to develop several **mining** areas around this **coal** mine including MDS opencast **mining** area.

- baois : Shanghai Baosteel Group Corp | idems : Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd. | march : Glencore PLC | mtsubc : Mitsubishi Corp | rtz : Rio Tinto PLC | sumtom : Sumitomo Corp | craaus : Rio Tinto Ltd
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