



HD Highlights of the AAP Finance Wire May 15, 2014

WC 598 words

PD 15 May 2014

SN Australian Associated Press Financial News Wire

SC AAPFIN

LA English

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HIGHLIGHTS Updated highlights of the AAP Finance Wire for Thursday, May 15:

MELBOURNE - Australia's second largest telco Optus is losing mobile customers and expects mobile revenue to continue falling over the next 12 months. (OPTUS, with factboxes, on file)

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SYDNEY - Rapid house price rises are being touted as a thing of the past by the Reserve Bank because of tougher lending standards. (RBA HOUSES on file)

MELBOURNE - Grains marketer GrainCorp will shut down its less efficient grain storage sites as it seeks to recover from a 43 per cent drop in half year net profit. (GRAINCORP, with factbox, on file)

MELBOURNE - Treasury Wine Estates (TWE) has rejected fresh speculation that big international alcoholic beverage groups are set to try to acquire its assets in the United States. (TREASURY WINE on file)

PERTH - Ratings agency Moody's expects the Australian mining sector to continue to benefit from strong Chinese demand, despite slowing growth in the world's second largest economy. (MINERS RATINGS on file)

SYDNEY - Westfield has enjoyed a rise in retail sales across its global shopping centre chain. (WESTFIELD on file)

PERTH - Shares in food maker Goodman Fielder have been halted from trade as it considers a potential takeover offer. (GOODMAN FIELDER on file)

PERTH - Victorians are using less electricity as solar power becomes more popular and the weather proves warmer than usual, according to the state's main electricity distributor. (SP AUSNET on file)

SYDNEY - The federal government's plan to create jobs for older Australian will have to overcome decades of entrenched habits. (JOBLESS NA on file)

PERTH - A major Roc Oil shareholder is calling on the company to let investors vote on its \$800 million merger with fellow energy player Horizon Oil. (ROC OIL on file)

PREMIUM FINANCE STORIES

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By Garry Shilson-Josling, Chief Economist

SYDNEY - You might disagree with the RBA about the state of the housing market, but you sure can't accuse them of ignoring it. (FINEX: RBA HOUSING on file)

MELBOURNE - The numbers that grabbed attention in the business world during the past week. (FINEX: NUMBERS on file)

See also on general file:

CANBERRA - Prime Minister Tony Abbott has warned angry state and territory leaders they must accept there are "swings and roundabouts" when it comes to federal money. (BUDGET14)

SYDNEY - Mining **company** Metgasco is in the sights of the corruption watchdog after the NSW government suspended its approval for a controversial coal seam gas well in the state's north. (MINE)

SYDNEY - The suspension of a controversial coal seam drilling licence in NSW sets a damaging precedent of authorities giving in to "extreme" environmental groups, miners say. (MINING INDUSTRY)

PERTH - The federal government has failed to give enough consideration to the economic and domestic gas supply implications of floating LNG technology (FLNG), a West Australian parliamentary inquiry has found. (GAS)

ADELAIDE - Supermarket giant Coles has been fined \$31,500 for displaying food beyond its use-by date at its McLaren Vale store in South Australia. (LEGAL: COLES)

CANBERRA - Australia is being urged to stick to its core agenda when it hosts this year's G20, and not allow the leaders' summit to be distracted by global crises such as the unrest in Ukraine. (G20)

Also Stocks Aust, Dollar Aust, Stockwatch and Finance Week on file.

AAP gfr/dmc

CO trzwn : Treasury Wine Estates Ltd

IN i41 : Food/Beverages/Tobacco | i426 : Wine | ialco : Alcoholic Beverages/Drinks | ibevrge : Beverages/Drinks | icnp : Consumer Goods

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AN Document AAPFIN0020140515ea5f0015q