



Australian  
Coal Association

## **Media Statement**

*Monday 22 August, Canberra*

### **Ralph Hillman to retire**

The Chairman of the Australian Coal Association (ACA), John Pegler today announced that ACA Executive Director, Ralph Hillman would retire at the end of August 2011.

Mr Pegler said the ACA Board had accepted Mr Hillman's decision to step down from the role and acknowledged the enormous contribution he had made to the black coal industry during his four (4) year tenure as the head of the industry body.

"Ralph has provided leadership to the black coal industry through a time of great challenges, including the debate on the Rudd Government's CPRS and the current carbon tax debate.

"He has been a strong and articulate champion of the industry, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to shaping the industry's collaboration with Federal and State governments in the development of carbon capture and storage and building public support for that technology.

"We are very pleased he has agreed to continue with the ACA in an advisory capacity and look forward to his further contribution to the industry.

"The ACA will announce the appointment of a new CEO shortly," Mr Pegler said.

Mr Hillman said he had thoroughly enjoyed working with the black coal industry.

"It was a most satisfying way to end a 42 year full time professional career".

"I intend to continue to make a contribution to the industry where I can," Mr Hillman said.

### **Bio - Ralph Hillman**

Mr Hillman was appointed as Executive Director of the Australian Coal Association in August 2007.

He was formerly a senior career officer of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and has extensive experience in multilateral economic policy and diplomacy.

He was Ambassador for the Environment and chief negotiator for Australia on the Kyoto Protocol from 1998 to 2002.

He was Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the OECD from 1995 to 1998. From 1994 to 1995 Mr Hillman was Chief Economist in the Department.

Prior to that he served in other senior positions in the Department and at overseas missions in Brussels, Brasilia, the OECD and at the Asian Development Bank.

Ends.