

The Bullroarer - Friday 12th September 2008

Posted by <u>aeldric</u> on September 12, 2008 - 2:51am in <u>The Oil Drum: Australia/New Zealand</u>

Topic: Miscellaneous

The Age - Truckers gear up for cost hikes, emission trading

THE announcement last week that Kenworth Trucks would be sacking more than 80 workers — reducing production from 23 trucks a day to just eight — was a blast on the air horn for the Australian road transport industry.

The slowing economy, record fuel prices and rising interest rates have made for a rocky road in 2008, but for road transport operators a handful of looming speed humps will test even the most experienced operators.

One News - A world-first fuel saving programme?

Airways New Zealand estimates that the annual value of the company's existing emissions saving efforts through efficient vectoring and flow control are in the vicinity of NZ \$ 20 million per year to the New Zealand aviation industry. And if the expected gains from ASPIRE experiment were applied to the 156 weekly flights from Australia and New Zealand to Canada and the US - it could collectively save something like 38 million litres of fuel a year. That's worth a whopping worth NZ \$ 44 million. Now that's a big number.

The Australian - Shell deal up \$140m on currency move: Arrow Energy

ARROW Energy has sealed its joint venture deal with Royal Dutch Shell and is to earn an extra \$140 million from the agreement.

As previously announced, a subsidiary of the global energy giant, Shell Exploration Company BV, has agreed to acquire 30 per cent of Arrow's (ASX: AOE) interest in its Australia upstream tenements and a 10 per cent stake of Arrow International Pte.

Arrow and Shell plan to mine coal seam gas and transport it to a proposed plant in Gladstone, Queensland where it will be transformed into liquified natural gas for export.

NZ Herald - Climate change a huge challenge

Mr Garrett advised against any "tinkering" with the trading scheme in the short or medium term. "Businesses need certainty to accommodate, adjust and respond."

He expected the Australian scheme would be complementary and able to be integrated with the New Zealand version over time.

He had a "sense of optimism" about New Zealand's future. "I think your prospects are good."

Stuff.co.nz - Nightcaps coal rolling north to feed Fonterra

Hundreds of tonnes of Southland coal are being freighted north every day to feed the dairy monster.

Trainloads of up to 550 tonnes of thermal coal have been leaving the Takitimu Mine at Nightcaps bound for Fonterra's Clandeboye dairy plant north of Temuka, in South Canterbury.

ABC - Call for coal mine impact funds to be extended

A central Queensland mayor says the State Government's \$100 million funding commitment to communities affected by coal mining could be extended to include the region's three major cities.

Central Highlands Mayor Peter Maguire attended a meeting in Moranbah yesterday with four other mayors, State Government officials and industry representatives.

He says it was suggested at the meeting that Rockhampton, Gladstone and Mackay be included as part of the three year project.

The Australian - Linc Energy in deal to tap coal, gas in China

EMERGING clean fuel producer Linc Energy has launched into the Chinese market, where it plans to use its gas and coal technologies to set up commercial projects.

The gas-to-liquids hopeful has joined forces with its new Chinese partner, Xinwen Mining Group, to develop underground coal gasification (UCG) and gas to liquids (GTL) projects in the Yining mining area.

The Age - Scrap coal plant compo, urges miners' union

THE coal miners' union has hit out at its own industry, calling on the Federal Government to deny coal-fired electricity plants "palliative care" in the form of compensation as it tackles climate change.

Federated Farmers president Don Nicolson said the sector would be exposed to transport and energy cost increases from day one.

"The closer you get to 2030 your profitability will be compromised year on year," Nicolson said.

NZ Herald - NZer cleared of damaging British power station

A New Zealander and five other Greenpeace activists have been acquitted of criminal damage charges after their protest at a coal-fired power station in southern England.

Emily Hall, 34, from Hawke's Bay, and five men were accused in Maidstone Crown Court of causing nearly £30,000 (\$79,000) of damage to the Kingsnorth power station near Hoo in Kent.

They argued in court that the protest was lawful because it aimed to prevent damaging emissions, and the jury cleared them in a majority verdict.

News.com.au - Share market lower on oil fears

THE share market opened weaker again today today as oil slid - despite OPEC cutting production - and US investment bank Lehman Brothers reported additional writedowns but said it may sell key assets.

Fluid Handling - New source of gas and oil found in PNG

OIL Search says it has discovered a source of gas and light oil in Papua New Guinea (PNG) which could lead to an expansion of the country's \$11b liquefied natural gas (LNG) project.

The ExxonMobil-led PNG LNG project was originally developed as a two-plant operation using 60% of the oil and gas explorer's resource base.

Oil Search is carrying out further examinations on the find, dubbed Cobra 1A ST3, to assess its size. Provided it is large enough, the reserve could be used to feed a third LNG plant.

ABC - Bligh outlines Gladstone LNG challenges

Premier Anna Bligh has told Parliament that Gladstone, in central Queensland, faces a number of issues as the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry is developed.

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