

## Media Release

20 January 2010

### 350 tonne 'baby' welcomed into mining family

A group of well-wishers were on hand this morning at the christening of Meandu Mine's newest addition, a 350 tonne Hitachi excavator.

A dedicated team spent a month piecing together the eight metre high machine, which arrived in parts on 15 semi-trailers from Brisbane in December.

Tarong Energy CEO Helen Gluer congratulated the assembly crew who spent a combined 3,300 man hours on the process.

"I am particularly proud of the team's safety performance, with not one Lost Time Injury or safety incident recorded during the assembly and commissioning phases," Ms Gluer said.

The new excavator, which will run for approximately 6,000 hours per year for the next 12 years, is part of a \$50 million fleet replacement program that will ensure Tarong Energy and contract miner Thiess can execute an extensive mine plan to meet coal demand safely.

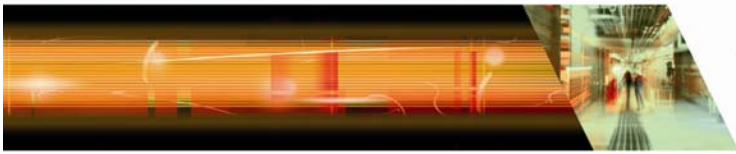
"Later this year, two new dozers, two graders, and five new Komatsu 830E haul trucks will join the new excavator on site," Ms Gluer said.

"The fabulous new fleet is projected to remove the equivalent volume of an Olympic size swimming pool every two hours."

Ms Gluer also noted the involvement of local contractor Hams Crane Hire in the delivery process.

"We are proud to have a long-standing relationship with Hams Crane Hire, and will continue to utilise local resources where possible in the equipment replacement program," Ms Gluer said.

Owner of Hams Crane Hire, Greg Hams, explained that the mining industry generated a significant amount of work for the business.



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“As Hams specialises in heavy lifting, the mines, Meandu in particular, supply us with a large proportion of our work,” Mr Hams said.

“Our contract with Tarong Energy has been in place for ten years now.”

**ENDS**

## Photos



*Tarong Energy CEO Helen Gluer with Greg Hams of Hams Crane Hire.*

## Background

Tarong Energy is one of Queensland’s most significant power generators, with the capacity to deliver up to 25 per cent of the State’s power needs.

Established in July 1997 and owned by the Queensland Government, Tarong Energy is the owner and operator of Tarong Power Station (coal fired), Tarong North Power Station (coal-fired) and Wivenhoe Power Station. The Corporation also owns Meandu Mine which supplies up to seven million tonnes of coal a year to the adjacent Tarong power stations.

The Corporation is an active competitor in the National Electricity Market (NEM). The Corporation sells electricity into the NEM spot market pool and provides ancillary services to the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) through Tarong and Wivenhoe Power Stations to ensure the secure and reliable supply of electricity throughout Queensland.

Tarong Energy employs more than 400 people at its generating sites at Nanango and Wivenhoe Dam and in its Brisbane office.